# Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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## The Maine Farmer.

N. T. TRUE, S. L. BOARDMAN, } Editors.

Our Home, Our Country, and our Brother Man.


### A Last Word.

"Volume XXXVI: No. 52." What, is it possible! Another volume closed; another year passed; fifty-two weeks more in this mysterious bundle of time which we call human life, numbered! It seems but yesterday that we greeted our readers with the opening address of the volume, when in fact a year has come and gone, the seasons have performed their evolutions, and we have before us the closing pages of our annual volume.

The past year, which in many respects has been a favorable one for the farmer, has in others been unfavorable for our own and similar journals. The year has witnessed the most excitement and enthusiasm in political and national affairs that has ever taken place in our political history, and it is probably safe to say no such agitation of the public mind will occur again, produced by similar causes, for years to come. These periods of political excitement take complete possession of the public mind, and everything else, for the time being, gives way before it. Although farmers are obliged to perform their usual amount of work, they are generally less interested in it than at other times, and partake quite largely of the infection of the moment. Partisan journals are in the ascendency and agricultural papers feel the effects produced by their extensive circulation. We have, in common with similar papers, experienced this disadvantage the past season; but have never for once turned aside from the great objects for which we work;—the improvement and elevation of the industrial classes of our State, and the furtherance of whatever is calculated to promote their interests. How far we have succeeded in this work is for others to say. Now, happily, and let us hope for the good of our common country, this contest has been decided, and the people—what a mighty power is in their hands!—are settling down to the normal conditions of life and its daily duties. These duties will now be entered upon with new vigor; energies that have been quite expended in one direction, will by being turned into another channel perform their work with a new zest. Agriculture, that great mainspring of all prosperity, all wealth, all industries, —upon which nations and individuals in times of political excitement or domestic quiet, depend—will receive greater attention in coming years than has ever been given to it in the past, and we look for its advancement and improvement, in its almost countless departments, to a degree, that, should we mention it, would astonish our readers. Not only throughout our entire country, in Southern fields devastated and neglected, but especially in our own State are we looking for this revival of our agricultural interests. Our State Agricultural Society with its annual exhibitions, is to enter upon a new course of prosperity to itself and benefit to our industrial population; our Agricultural College is to extend its advantages to the young men of the State to an extent little thought of now, and through this agency assist greatly in the future advancement of our highest interests; our new lands are to be peopled with an intelligent, energetic population, and new sources of wealth are to flow from our broad acres and from the employment of our immense and unsurpassed water power privileges. When these are carried out—already they have all started on their new career—the future prosperity of our State will be a just matter for general pride. That all this is to be, we feel certain, and that too within a short time; and with this belief, we join hands with all our readers, in the work, however little we may do, that shall conduce to this end.

So we close our old volume with thanks, and enter upon the new one in hope.

### The Baldwin Apple.

Among the multitude of varieties of apples that have been brought into public notice during the last forty years, the Baldwin stands pre-eminent in New England. A native of Massachusetts, it has become the most prominent of all market apples. In fact the price of Baldwin apples has been a sort of standard for the prices of other varieties.

The Baldwin is a most vigorous grower, so much so that it has been more liable to winterkill than most other varieties, owing in part to ignorance in cultivating it. It forms a large open top, and is more easily shaped than any other tree in consequence of its vigorous growth. It will not bear ill treatment when young. If stunted during that period, it rarely ever recovers so as to form a healthy tree. This probably is owing to the open and porous nature of its wood, and the free circulation of sap by which its interior wood is exposed to rapid decay. Whether this be so or not, a stunted tree will exhibit a black heart and wood nearly to the last year's growth.

Though the fruit of the Baldwin may not be of the first quality, its fair and good sized aspect, its crisp and rather juicy pulp renders it a very acceptable fruit, while it is one of our most reliable winter apples. It delights on a granite soil with a good supply of well composted animal manure, and in favorable locations rarely disappoints the orchardist. It requires prompt attention while young to shape it into a suitable tree before the interior branches are too large to be cut. Its vigorous habit is such that unless this point is attended to at the right time, it will become a tangled mass of limbs and foliage, and any subsequent attempt to remedy the evil will endanger the tree. We have sometimes thought the barer was more fond of this tree than any other. Perhaps its vigorous growth may render its bark better adapted for being punctured by the moth in which to deposit her eggs.

If young trees are very luxuriant it is a good plan to head them in by cutting off a few inches of the present year's growth in the month of August. This will harden the wood and buds and enable them to withstand the winter's cold all the better. Young trees that stand by the side of fences where the snow drifts upon them should have a stake driven by their side and the tree lashed to it, and, finally, they should always be under good cultivation. We gathered four bushels of Baldwins the present year from a tree which grew from a nursery that we sowed eighteen years ago. We could not have done it without giving it a chance to grow.

☞ Mr. James S. McKenney of this city, has left at our office a potato of last year's growth from which three or four small potatoes have forced themselves, and appear like warts upon the surface of the old one, although looking fresh and green. Upon cutting the potato in two we find several small perfectly formed potatoes in the interior, apparently awaiting their turn to come out. The thing may be a curiosity, and it may not; but as we have never seen any one who ever visited the interior of a hill of potatoes, or a potato itself when the same was growing, we will call it such until disproved.

### Dry Earth as a Deodorizer.

It is only lately that dry earth as a deodorizer has been much appreciated or used for the purpose, although for a long time its value in this respect has been understood. But its neglect for this most important use, for which it is without doubt better fitted and of more economical and general application than any other agent whatever, is not surprising, as in other matters of public and personal economy, we often fail to put the most common things to utility, neglecting to make use of advantages that lie directly before us, and seek abroad for other things which after being obtained do not serve so good a purpose.

On account of ignorance or prejudice, the substance of greatest value to our farmers as a fertilizing agent, is with but few exceptions—more now than formerly, however,—greatly wasted and in many, many instances completely lost. We refer to human excrements, of the value of which there is no question; and while hundreds of millions of people who cultivate the soil for a livelihood, and whom we are apt to regard as below us in point of intelligence and civilization make use of every particle of this for enriching the soil, we almost entirely overlook it. In our cities immense sums have been, and are now being expended in the construction and arrangement of sewers by means of which all the excrements of their vast populations are washed into the ocean; and while of late, measures have been taken to secure and put to use as a fertilizer the contents of these sewers, yet these efforts have not in general been successful, although attended with great expense. To show the immensity of loss from this source look at a single case. The average population of New York city (see American Agricultural Annual, 1868,) is not less than one million. This population consumes food equivalent to at least thirty million bushels of corn annually. This amount of corn contains, among other minerals, nearly seven thousand tons of phosphoric acid, which is annually lost in the wasted night soil of that city alone. In the entire United States the loss of this manurial substance, is estimated at $50,000,000, money value! No wonder our fields are running out and our crops depreciating in amount in consequence of this drain upon the resources of our soil, which goes to sustain the population of our cities and from thence into the ocean. This is the loss realized by the cities alone. Reckoning that which takes place upon all our farms in consequence of the want of attention in saving the human excrements, and the amount would be nearly doubled.

Of course the requirements of the public health, an object greater than any other, demands that some measures be taken to remove from the vicinity of all human dwellings, (or to so thoroughly deodorize that which remains that no bad result will follow) every particle of matter the decomposition of which would have a tendency to produce disease. At present, our methods for accomplishing this, both in towns and upon our farms are imperfect. The sewer system has its disadvantages, while with the great majority of farmers no good system of saving and deodorizing the contents of privies is made use of. But dry earth, a substance everywhere at hand, at hardly no cost to the farmer, and little cost to cities, promises to be a perfect and complete agent for the saving of night soil in both cases, for the city and the farm, doing away with offensive sewers, which are at best, imperfect in their workings, and rendering farm privies clean and healthy, while every portion of human excrements is saved in an inoffensive state for application to the soil. For the use of cities, prisons, manufacturing establishments, and all public institutions, the plan of earth closets is somewhat complicated, but perfectly feasible, for a description of which we have not room at present. Upon the farm it is very simple, and can be put in use by everyone. All that is required is to have a quantity of perfectly dried loam—that inclining to clay is better than that inclining to sand,—or muck, (the former is better,) and arrange some simple contrivance by means of which a proper quantity can be dropped, daily, upon the deposits left. During the warm season this can be removed from the vault as often as necessary, and piled up until wanted for use. Dry earth used only at the urinal can be dried and used over and over again, losing none of its value, and possessing the same deodorizing qualities after having been used over again five or six times. Testimonials as to the value and permanency of this mixture as a fertilizer are numerous and satisfactory.

Earth closets, urinals and commodes (the latter for use by invalids, and in sick rooms) are already being manufactured and used in large numbers in England, and measures are about being taken to manufacture them in this country. Parties interested in the blessed reform which the use of dried earth for this purpose will bring about, should procure the little pamphlet on "Earth Closets" noticed by us last week, the reading of which has suggested the above thoughts.

### A Potato Exhibition.

The article in relation to the Potato Exhibition to be held under the auspices of the Board of Agriculture, at the State House in this city, in January next, which appears in another column will be read with interest. The advantages to be gained from such an exhibition, as stated in the article, are sufficient, it would seem, especially when farmers are experiencing such a "potato fever" as is at present upon them, to call out a large display of tubers as well as of those especially interested in their culture; and we only allude to the subject to impress the importance of such an exhibition, more strongly, if possible, upon the minds of our readers. Do not forget the time, do not forget to be present, do not forget to bring some potatoes with you.

We will just add, however, that in some sections the Gilkey is also known as the Philadelphia; and that the paper to be presented at the exhibition, upon the history, characteristics and pathology of the potato—prepared by an able member of the Board, and a frequent contributor to our columns—will be a production of more than ordinary character and interest, and well worth hearing by every farmer.

### State Industrial College.

We have received the first catalogue of the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, located at Orono, a well printed pamphlet of thirteen pages; containing besides a list of officers and students (the class consisting of thirteen) the general announcement, regulations, course of study, terms, &c. The Faculty at present consists of M. C. Fernald, Professor of Mathematics and acting President, and Samuel Johnson, Farm Superintendent and Instructor in Agriculture. A Select Course of study is to be arranged in due time to accommodate those who wish to pursue Botany, Chemistry, or some other branch, without going through the full course. Students are required to perform three hours of manual labor five days in the week, for which they receive compensation. Notice is given that for the accommodation of those who wish to join the present class and could not do so, at the opening, an examination for the purpose will be held on Thursday, Jan. 28th, and those intending to enter should make immediate application to Mr. Fernald.

### The Basking Shark.

Much popular interest has been excited within the past few months by the capture of a strange fish in the vicinity of Eastport the present year. Probably no one of this species was ever captured by chasing him on shore. As many exaggerated stories have been raised in reference to this fish, we will give for the benefit of our readers the scientific information within our reach respecting him.

This fish has long been known on our coast and in the northern parts of Europe as the "Basking Shark" (*Selachus maximus.*) The head is small and snake-like in proportion to his body. His bronchial apparatus run almost round the neck and when open it appears as though his throat had been cut. Its teeth are small, but numerous and very sharp. Its skin is nearly the color of sheet lead, and its dorsal fin rises on the back, and resembles a plowshare.

It is remarkable for having a long intestinal tube which is provided with a valve-like structure which causes all the nutritious matter to be extracted. Hence it is supposed that this shark, unlike other members of this family, subsist on a vegetable diet.

It seems to be very peaceable and inoffensive, and rather sluggish in its habits, delighting to lie on the surface of the water and bask in the sun, hence the name of basking shark. Fishermen take advantage of this habit, and approach him and thrust into his vitals a harpoon by which he is captured. Their liver is enormously large, sometimes weighing a thousand pounds. They are caught nearly thirty feet in length and on the coast of New Jersey are said to be nearly or quite forty feet long.

It is probable that the frequent stories of the sea-serpent have arisen from the sight of this shark while basking on the surface of the waters. It requires but a little excitement of the imagination to lengthen out such a creature to one hundred feet or more, and to warp every motion and every aspect of this fish into a sea-serpent. In the first place no species of the serpent tribe lives in the ocean. They are all land or fresh water animals. The great size and formidable appearance of this fish would easily lead the non scientific mind to believe almost anything that might be said about it, especially when but imperfectly seen. We believe a specimen of this shark was preserved in the Portland Natural History Society some twenty-five years ago. The one now on exhibition through the country is worthy a visit, as it gives one an impression of some of the monsters that inhabit the ocean.

It should be a caution to persons unacquainted with natural history not to believe exaggerated statements respecting any animal of which they know but little. The Leviathan and Behemoth of ancient times have been the themes of endless discussions and of the most wonderful statements. We remember in our boyhood of seeing a specimen of the hammer headed shark whose body was like the huge handle of a mallet, and the head corresponding with that of the same, with his eyes sticking out at each end of the mallet. It seemed to our youthful vision the very embodiment of ugliness of which we have never yet fairly rid ourself. We have seen a blue shark harpooned which seemed to have been as much as twenty feet long, but probably it was not over twelve feet in length. Hence it is well in telling stories about such beings of which we know but little to keep as nearly as possible within the bounds of probability. There is an increasing interest in the study of Natural History, and we trust everybody will be so well informed as to derive real pleasure rather than fear in looking at the various forms under which nature presents herself.

### The Explanation Given.

We will just remark, in connection with the following from the Waterville *Mail*, that the State Society was forced to postpone its exhibition not because the "rain threatened to injure the quality of the track for trotting horses," but because the rain *had* already rendered every inch of the grounds so thoroughly soaked that an animal of no description could go upon it with any degree of comfort; neither could the pens and stalls have possibly been ready, in consequence of the continued rain that had stopped the operations of the large force of workmen engaged in putting them in order. The matter of postponement was fully discussed by the Trustees, especially in connection with its influence upon County Exhibitions, and while the Trustees were satisfied both the State and County Exhibitions would suffer in consequence of taking place at the same time, yet a postponement was the only thing that could be done under the circumstances; as to go on would result in failure, while to postpone could be no less. In voting to postpone, the Society acted with reference to its own best interests, as every other Society did when voting to do the same thing, and the fact that the several county societies did put off their shows in consequence, was a magnanimous thing on their part, and was so regarded by every officer of the society. It shew how general was the feeling to have a State Fair, and how cordial was the interest existing between the State and County Societies:

"The MAINE FARMER asks us to explain what we mean by expressing the hope that the State Fair will hereafter be conducted with less disregard of the interests of the county fairs. We thought our meaning would be understood without details. As it was not, the FARMER is informed that we thought the adjournment of the State fair for one week, at the very last minute, when much of the stock designed for the local fairs was on its way to Portland, was at least a careless way of treating those county agricultural societies whose long continued labors had made a State fair possible. The FARMER knows that when a State fair began to be talked of, the county societies generally waited to see what days the State society would fix upon for its exhibition. When this choice had been made, a large number of the county societies took the week following as their last resort. At least half a dozen of them did so, and proceeded to advertise and make arrangements accordingly. Persons and stock, it was thought, could be at both the State and local fairs. At an hour too late for protest, the State society backed down upon the very day to which it had driven the county exhibitions, with the simple plea that the rain threatened to injure the quality of the track for trotting horses. A giant with iron heels, staggering backward upon a score of barefooted boys, might inquire with the FARMER, what's the matter!

We have before said, that a State exhibition is but the result of the labor and success of the county societies. If it can be had without injury to these, it may be well to have it; but when it gives them embarrassment and consequent dissatisfaction, it becomes an injury where it aims to be a benefit. We thought the State society acted with too little regard for the convenience and interest of the local societies—and so we think still. But as to the extent to which 'blame exists,'—which is also one of the FARMER'S inquiries—our explanation will enable it to guess as well as we."

### The Chemical News.

The publishers of the American edition of this very valuable work, desirous of rendering it still more popular and indispensable to American readers, propose to add to the English edition a supplement, containing notices of the current progress of Chemistry and the Physical Sciences in America, notices of new books, review of the markets, movements in trade, etc. The new feature will be inaugurated in the December issue, and will be under the editorial charge of Prof. Chas. A. Seely, a gentleman well known for his many applications of chemistry to the useful arts. Published in monthly numbers at $5 per year. Address W. A. Townsend & Adams, 434 Broome street, New York.

## Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

### A Word to Potato-Growers.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Allow me a space in the FARMER to remind those interested, that there is to be an exhibition of potatoes at the agricultural room in the State House, the fourth Wednesday of January next. It is not to be a display of monstrosities or curiosities, but of varieties. Several ends are sought to be gained by the exhibition proposed.

1st. It is desired to ascertain the number of kinds cultivated in the State. No other method commends itself by which this may be readily, correctly or cheaply accomplished. These varieties, many of them, must be seen side by side to avoid mistakes, and to detect slight differences, especially when there is but a shade of change, or when the form of one so nearly resembles that of another that one mould would apparently be suited to both. Many and many a farmer who has grown the Jackson and the Orono for years, could not for the life of them tell which was which, yet on close inspection they are found to be nearly as dissimilar as yellow butter and butterized lard.

Again, why not catalogue the potato, as well as the apple, the plum or the grape? Ten cultivate the potato where one cultivates the apple, and twenty eat the potato, to one who even enjoys the poor privilege of tasting of the apple, plum or grape.

2d. Almost every variety grown in the State, and it might not be stating the case too strongly, to say that every variety has its misnomers. These misnomers, or local names, tend to much confusion. For example, a few years since I wrote to a friend in the western part of the State, proposing an exchange of some half a dozen sorts, taking the precaution of sending and receiving the names of those to be exchanged. On opening the box received—ah! miserable me! I had sent to him a Pink-eye, known to me as a Calico, and received from him a Pink-eye, cognomened as Beauty.

One who has taken no pains to "book up" in this matter of names, can have no clear conception of the locals applied to the same sort. It has its prototype only in the confusion at Babel. For instance, the Gilkey is known as the Shenango, Meshannock, Neshannock, Mercer and Carter. By exhibiting these excellent sorts, at one and the same time and place, the imposition is easily detected, and the true name determined. A year or two since, a potato dubbed as the Samaritan was trumpeted far and near, as wonderfully prolific, almost equalling the *Dioscorea Batatas*, which was said to yield sixty tons to the acre, and yet this Samaritan was an old acquaintance in certain localities, having changed its name without "due form of law," and was an old deteriorated variety. The Minister potato is known in some sections as the Snowball, which has had its day. One having the latter, supposing them to be identical, is disinclined to make the acquaintance of the Minister. A gentleman said in my hearing, during the State Fair at Portland, "I have grown the Early Rose for a year or two, but from his description of the potato, we suspected that he had mistaken the Gleason for the Early Rose, and such proved to be the fact. Both are choice kinds, but one is worth nearly as much per pound as the other is per bushel. At least purchasers are willing to pay that difference. At such an exhibition is just the time and place to establish the identity and test some of the claims of these new aspirants for public favor. If it be true, and but few can gainsay it, that the lease of life of a variety is exceedingly limited, the propagation of new varieties should be encouraged, by establishing public exhibitions, and prompting new candidates to come and compete for preferment.

3d. Another end to be gained by such an exhibit, is that it will afford one of the best of opportunities to collate the individual peculiarities of each individual kind, its origin, whether originated from the seed-ball, or a tuber variation, or a hybrid, or some old variety reverting back to some older type. Much misapprehension obtains in regard to where, when and by whom a kind was originated. The Jackson, known to be of Maine origin was, and that quite recently, claimed by a New York paper to have had its origin in that State. Another kind raised from the seed-ball, in the little unpretending town of Eastbrook, is now claimed by the State of Ohio. Each individual kind has a form, or color of skin, or color of flesh, or a deficiency of eyes—as the Dill—or a profusion of eyes—like the California—or dry or watery, or early or late, liable to disease, or free from it. It is exceedingly difficult to obtain a potato which will mature early and prove productive; two such excellent good qualities combined in the same sort are rarely to be found. Such a combination is claimed for the Early Goodrich, in the neighborhood of Augusta, whereas in some other localities, while it proves to be one of the best table potatoes, it is not remarkably early.

In the choice of varieties to be cultivated, in the selection and preparation of seed, in the application of manures and in the modes of culture, there is an exact truth somewhere. To ascertain exactly where that key to the truth is, would be a legitimate labor of such a gathering. This manuring in the hill has occasioned much discussion and disputation in regard to its agency in producing the disease. Not long since, a farmer in the upper part of Franklin county expressed a deal of surprise when we informed him that the farmers of Hancock county applied manure in the hill, and permitted the potato seed to come in direct contact with the manure. "Why," said he, "can you abuse your potatoes in that way and raise sound ones?"

One desires to change his seed, and there is a gain by so doing, having a kind which has done well with him, but evidently would pay for changing. He has the Davis Seedling for instance, and wishes to continue its cultivation. To obtain the same kind he must send to a remote town, but ten to one, when the potatoes come he will have, not Davis Seedlings, but Peach Blows. Were the varieties of the potato catalogued with half the care of the apple, such mistakes would not occur. This is another important end to be gained by the exhibition. Those who cannot come, can contribute. What is wanted is a specimen of every variety grown, which may from each county be directed to the member of the Board representing this county. Each specimen should be labelled in this way:—"Dill, originated in Illinois. Misnomers—Russett, Rusty coat; not early, good bearer, flesh yellow tinge, liable to disease. From John Smith, Smithville."—varying the label as the case may be. It is said that an interesting paper on the history of the potato will be read during the exhibition. May I be there to hear. W.

*Ellsworth, Nov. 9th*, 1868.

For the Maine Farmer.

### The Crops in Charlotte County, N. B.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—I cannot say at this writing, that all the crops with us are yet secured; for I believe there are some fields of turnips, and potatoes too, that are not harvested. We have had two snow storms and some extremely cold weather of late. It has exceeded anything that I ever knew in the month of October. The whole harvesting season with us, excepting the first week in haying, has been very unfavorable for securing crops. Like the two previous seasons, there has been an excess of wet weather; yet the crops on the whole, are above the average. The hay crop is very good; wheat, fair yield and good quality; buckwheat, very good; oats middling; barley, below the average; potatoes, good yield, and mostly sound and of very good quality. Much hay and grain was harvested in a damp condition, which in many instances could not be helped, owing to the sudden changes of the weather and the scarcity of help. It is too common a practice with us to put the grain into the barns before it is sufficiently dried. I will mention in connection with this, a case of my own, on drying grain in the field.

Two years ago I cut my barley, (which was an early crop) and it was two weeks before it could be got into the barn in a dry state. The weather during the time was warm and wet, with frequent showers and sunshine. It was turned upside down several times to prevent it from sprouting, and also that it might be exposed to the air. This operation was what saved it; had it been undisturbed, it would have sprouted and been otherwise injured. At last we had two dry days, when it was put into the barn; and to my certain knowledge it was dryer and in better condition, than nine-tenths of all the barley that came under my notice for that season; and I had opportunities of seeing a large number of specimens.

Now allow me to mention another case, which is of a man who cut his barley, and before it was sufficiently dried, he had to leave home for several days. He thought the grain would be spoiled by remaining in the swath so long, although the weather was favorable; but when he took some of it to the mill, the miller remarked to him that it was in the best condition of any he had ground for the season. "Ah," he said, "is that so? why I thought it was spoiled;" and then he mentioned about it laying so long in the field. I have mentioned these instances for the benefit of some of our farmers who are in the habit of hurrying their seed into the barns, in order to forward their work. Wheat or any other grain, by remaining in a damp state in the barn for two or three weeks, is injured, even if it has not become musty; and no process of drying or grinding will make it perfect. Every intelligent miller will bear witness to this.

A few remarks about our haying operations, and I will close; for I have spun this article to a greater length than I thought of when I commenced. I believe, as a general thing, we are a week too late in commencing our haying. This week I commenced my haying a week earlier than usual; the result was, it was got in fine weather, and was of the best quality that I ever had, or ever saw. If I had delayed one week, it would have cost me double the sum to get the hay, for the weather afterwards was very unfavorable for haying; yet I did not commence a day too soon if the weather had been favorable for the whole season.

*Moore's Mills, Nov. 24*, 1868. S. C. M.

NOTE. The letter of our esteemed correspondent contains an allusion to an interesting and important subject, upon which we would like to see the opinions of our other contributors; viz, the drying of grain in the open air. We also hope that at some other time S. C. M. will favor us with further details of his experiments in the breeding of trout, about which we, as well as our readers do doubt, have pleasant recollections.—[EDS.

For the Maine Farmer.

### An Industrial School for Girls.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—You may have read, although I do not remember of having seen any mention of it in your paper, the report of Hon. Geo. B. Burrows on an Industrial School for Girls, presented to the Legislature at its last session. This report contained a mass of facts in regard to the principles, economy and practical workings of such institutions in different States and countries, and dealt somewhat at length upon the advantages coming to society as well as to the pupils of such schools from their establishment. The last Legislature, in their action upon the report of Mr. Burrows, passed a resolution which was approved March 6th, 1868, calling for propositions from any town or city desiring to have such an institution located within their limits, and to report the same to the Legislature that will convene in January next. In conformity to the provisions of that resolve the Secretary of State has given notice that such proposals may now be sent to his office, where they will be placed on file in the order in which they are received, and at the proper time submitted to those having charge of the matter.

Now Messrs. Editors, I have a plan which I wish to present to the consideration of your readers. It may be regarded as a wild scheme, but I believe it is entirely practicable, and one that will meet with the complete and unanimous approval of the people of the State. It is that the farm and buildings of the State Agricultural College at Orono be transferred to the State for the purposes of the proposed Industrial School for Girls. I do not propose to go into a lengthy argument to prove that this will be the best thing that can be done in the premises, which I think I *could* prove to any candid, sensible person, but simply to suggest the plan for your own and your readers' consideration. You are aware that much dissatisfaction has been manifested by the people of the State in regard to the Orono institution for the purpose of an Agricultural and Mechanical College, and that in consequence many of the most prominent men of the State have stood aloof from its management, and if anything have thrown their influence against it. Such an institution needs their influence and support, as well as the influence and support of every farmer and mechanic of the State. This it does not now have, and I feel almost certain will not have if it remains where it is. The buildings already upon the farm, would, as I judge from the account of them given in your paper some time since, answer well for the wants of such an institution for girls as is proposed, without much if any alteration; the farm, if larger than would be needed for the girl's school, could be sold at a good bargain, in whole or in part, and the one would probably satisfy the people of Orono as well as the other. Some little change in the law regarding the Agricultural College and its relations with the towns of Oldtown and Orono would perhaps be necessary, but it could be easily arranged and made satisfactory, it seems to me, to all parties. While there would be no change in the character of the institution that would at all disaffect the people in the vicinity where the institution is located; and while no loss would result to the State in any way from such a change, the Agricultural and Mechanical College, might by being located in some portion of the State more favorable in many respects, be sure of a better support from the farming community. The location at Orono is also far more preferable in many points of view, for an Industrial School for Girls, than the institution at present there.

My plan is before you. It may go before the people or under your desk. A. M. C.

*November 25th*, 1868.

NOTE. Although some of our readers may unite with our correspondent in calling his scheme a "wild" one, still, as he has furnished us with his name and seems to write in good faith, we insert his article.—EDS.

For the Maine Farmer.

### Norway Oats and Rose Potatoes.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The above named oats and potatoes that I see such glowing accounts of in the New York *Tribune* and other journals, reminds me of a gentleman that traveled through our town some five years since, selling a very large cherry currant bush, which he sold at a high price. I was invited very strongly to buy, but having some very nice ones of my own, I did not buy any; but a particular friend of mine bought freely of them, and on learning that I had bought none, sent me some of his, which I took great pains in setting out. Well, dear FARMER, the bush grew very well, but when the fruit came it was of the smallest and poorest kind, and so it has been ever since with mine and all others that bought them.

Now, readers of the FARMER, I wish to say to you that have not much money to throw away, do not pay too many dollars for a pound of potatoes or a bushel of oats. The dearest thing that a farmer can buy is a humbug, and there are a great many in the market. Look out sharp for patent manures, and spend your dollars in hauling muck, leaves, soda or loam; and good northern oats will do for our use if we get them in early, and all we have to sell will bring us more profit than any other grain. A burnt child dreads the fire. I have some humbugs laid up which I look at once in a while to learn me something. Look out farmers, for I shall remind you of these when I hear you complain of the cheats you have allowed yourself to be parties to. SUBSCRIBER.

For the Maine Farmer.

### The Early Goodrich Potato.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—What will most interest those who propose to give this variety of potatoes a trial the coming season, is this: Are they a profitable potato to cultivate? Our experience is briefly this: We have cultivated them two seasons. The first, we planted a peck, from which we raised sixteen bushels. The past season we raised some two hundred and fifty bushels of them, planted mostly upon very poor land with the view of testing their productiveness. We also planted a small piece upon very wet land made rich, but found them at harvest entirely free from rot, yielding enormously. We find them an excellent eating potato, early, which is of importance, when we are obliged to plant in June, as many have been compelled to do for two years past. We believe these potatoes will bear high cultivation without rotting. They are very solid —requiring more time in cooking than many other kinds—of even surface—skin inclined to be rusty, which has caused some to fear they would rot; but we have discovered not the least tendency in this direction. As further evidence of their productiveness, we send you the following, from two very reliable persons residing in this town: Mr. Joseph Brown planted last spring nineteen pounds of seed, and harvested from the same thirty-two bushels. And yet better—Mr. Benjamin Davis planted ten and one-half pounds of seed which we gave him last May, and he raised from the same twenty-one and one-half bushels. Mr. Davis says he planted them upon sward land without manure. G. C.

*Woodstock.*

CHEESE. In the year ending May 1st, 1867, there were 43,000,000 pounds of cheese exported from this country. The average price received by the factories was over seventeen cents per pound in currency.

## Agricultural Miscellany.

### Trotting at Agricultural Exhibitions.

A recent number of the Boston *Cultivator* contained a lengthy article, and one containing many good points, from Hon. Thos. S. Lang, of Vassalboro', written in reply to a correspondent of that paper, who had presented some thoughts on the question of the trials of speed of horses at agricultural fairs—having special reference to the fact that the Illinois Agricultural Society had decided to allow no trials of speed of horses at its exhibition—from which we make some extracts:

"That fast horses are not wanted for farm work, I am aware; but the farmer who raises a fast one—and horses are mostly raised by farmers—does not hesitate to take a fast price if it be offered him, and considers the receipts as legitimate as from the culture of prime wheat. Now let there be a market in Illinois for fast, fine horses, so that it be for the interest of farmers to engage in raising them, and your correspondent, "Payson," I doubt not, will be found praising them.

One other point in this connection I wish to allude to, viz: The inference from 'Payson's' article is, that a trained horse, or one bred to speed, losing his staying qualities, or ability to go a long distance. My experience teaches the opposite. That great speed draws upon animal economy while undergoing the trial, is not to be doubted. So an engine of eighty horse power may not draw more than twenty cars at sixty miles per hour, but is as able to draw forty cars as easily, and much longer at a less rate of speed. A class of animals may be bred to a good size, say fifteen and a half to sixteen hands, which is capable of great speed and great endurance, and still be able to draw the plough or market wagon. If he proves speedy, his value in market is doubled or trebled.

I am not a believer in extra-sized work horses for farm work, or the usual farmers' labors on the road, or operations in the forests, hauling lumber. The Clydesdale and Norman horse of extra size are good for the truck, heavy and slow teams; but sprightly action and quick walk will generally suffer by adding extreme weight in the animal. Were I to select a stallion to breed farm workers, for the plough, or market wagon, 1,300 pounds should be the extreme, 1,200 being better in most cases.

Reference having been made to Normandy horses, I may say there are two classes of these horses—the medium sized and extra larger—both to be seen in France. The French post horses or *chevaux de poste*, are to my mind the best bred horse for farm labor, I have ever seen. They are generally of the original Percheron stock, and stand on an average thirteen hands high. The Normandy Omnibus horse has the short, quick, nervous step, with feet and legs under him, splendidly built for service, weighing from 1,200 to 1,400 pounds, often more—not in the least clumsy, two of them taking a carriage of from thirty to fifty passengers, at from four to five miles per hour easily. I believe these horses would be preferable for trucks in cities to our Pennsylvania horses, on account of their good feet and hardy constitution.

I speak of horses for New England farms when I prefer from 1,200 to 1,300 pounds weight, as I am not a judge of what is needed in the West. I may be allowed to urge, then, that no one section can judge what is best to breed in another, or that a class of horses should be encouraged which is suited to one kind of work. But in our exhibitions, let the interests of all have an opportunity to be represented.

Trials of speed properly conducted are a source of much pleasure, and draw many visitors; and while they enjoy what they see, help pay the bills and increase the inducement to be held out to other interests, and so help each other. And that society is weak which cannot control such exhibitions within the bounds of prudence, and needs an application to its executive, rather than against the whole class of breeders of speedy horses.

Should Illinois be stopped raising corn, or wheat, because so many make it into whiskey, and make bad use of it? There is no reason why such exhibitions may not properly represent all classes of industry, and with credit to themselves. If societies give too much prominence in their premiums to the horse interest, apply the remedy.

The Trustees of a society are not able to make visitors close their eyes to horses while exhibiting, or look at cattle and sheep unless they wish to, or command the presence of the public at large, and deprive them of the pleasure to be enjoyed at a well conducted *sere* test. I ask any reader of this article, who attended the fair of the Maine State Society this fall, if there was any objection to the exhibition of horses, of which there was the largest number ever exhibited at such a fair in New England? How were the *'farmers crowded?'* By the immense attendance on the days of the grand trials of speed? By the large sum these contests added to the funds of the society, thus enabling them to pay the premiums in all classes? Were they annoyed by the pleasure these trials gave the multitude? Nearly all of the horses exhibited were raised in Maine, or were purchased and brought hither for stock raising.

The whole show was a success, and the horses did their full share in making it so; and none were more gratified at the Society's success than the horse men of Maine, or I cannot judge. Nor would the entire amount of premiums to horses pay their owners half the expenses of showing them; but the indirect advantages are of great importance.

And now, in the midst of depression of business affairs, consequent upon the most exciting political contest ever known to us, the horse interest, united with their brother farmers, under the judicious management of excellent trustees, made a success which makes all alike glad. Nor do I believe there is a particle of jealousy on the part of the exhibitors of cattle, sheep, work horses, and those interested in trotters.

Trustees are rarely to blame in the management of trials of speed; but judges who are incompetent get on to the stand—who do not understand or care for the rules laid down for fair play: here is a subject for Trustees to consider. That local feeling and competing stock interests may prejudice many is to be regretted; but this does not alter the fact that in spite of these petty annoyances, a unity of all interests in one show gains strength."

### Feeding Whole Grain to Cattle.

It is an expensive system of management to feed whole grain to any kind of animals. All kinds of cereal grains are provided with a tough hull or skin, which the digestive powers of most animals will not dissolve; consequently, if the skin is not broken before the grain enters the stomach, the kernels will pass off with the droppings without affording the animal that swallowed the grain any more nourishment than fragments of wood of equal size.

During the month of August last, the writer procured a quantity of horse manure for top-dressing strawberry plants, and in a few days after the mulch was spread around the plants, the unbroken kernels of oats vegetated, so that the entire surface of the ground appeared as green as a lawn. This fact showed conclusively, that much of the grain had never afforded the animals that swallowed it any nourishment at all. Young horses having sound and sharp teeth will sometimes crush every kernel. But old horses with poor teeth frequently swallow half their mess of oats without breaking the skin of the kernels.

When mills are at a distance, and people will persist in feeding whole grain, it will always be found more advantageous to soak the grain at least twenty-four hours before using it. Suppose, for example, a teamster is accustomed to feed a team eight quarts of Indian corn and oats at each feeding, say three times a day. Let the grain be put in a pail and covered with warm water every time the team is fed. This plan would require three pails when the team is fed three times daily. Warm water is far better than cold water, as cold water, in cold weather, will soften the grain but little. Teamsters may rest assured that it will pay well for all trouble to soak all grain before feeding it.—*N. Y. Times.*

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. In addition to the course of lectures now in progress at the Agricultural College, by Dr. Cutter and Mr. Flint, the *Amherst Record* announces that Dr. Stickney of Boston, one of the best veterinary surgeons in America, is to deliver a course of lectures upon the diseases of domestic animals, beginning on the Monday after Thanksgiving. Manual labor for the Sophomore class has been suspended until after Thanksgiving, on account of the lectures.—*N. E. Farmer.*

SIMPLE AND PERFECT CURE FOR BURN. Take essence of peppermint and whiskey, in proportion of one part peppermint and three of spirits, and apply with cloths, and it gives perfect relief instantly. Peppermint and sweet oil is equally good, put on with cotton. This should be always at hand, whenever there is danger from such accidents, as it acts like a perfect charm, and will not fail to relieve.

### Principles of Horticulture.

XI. AIR AND LIGHT.

277. When an embryo plant is formed within its integuments, it is usually colorless, or nearly so; but, as soon as it begins to grow, that part which approaches the light (the stem) becomes colored, while the opposite extremity (the root) remains colorless.

278. The parts exposed to the air absorb oxygen at night, absorb carbonic acid and part with oxygen again in daylight; and thus in the daytime purify the air and render it fit for the respiration of man.

279. The intensity of this latter phenomenon is in proportion to the intensity of solar light to which leaves are directly exposed.

280. Its cause is the decomposition of carbonic acid, the extraction of oxygen, and the acquisition by the plant of carbon in a solid state; from which, modified by the peculiar vital actions of species, color and secretions are supposed to result.

281. For it is found that the intensity of color, and the quantity of secretions, are in proportion to the exposure to light and air, as is shown by the deeper color of the upper sides of leaves, etc.

282. And by the fact that, if plants be grown in air from which light is excluded, neither color nor secretions are formed, as is exemplified in blanched vegetables; which, if even naturally poisonous, may, from want of exposure to light, become wholesome, as celery.

283. When any color appears in parts developed in the dark, it is generally caused by the absorption of such coloring matter as pre-existed in the root or other body from which the blanched shoot proceeds, as in some kinds of rhubarb when forced.

284. Or by the deposition of coloring matter formed by parts developed in light, as in the subterranean roots of beets, carrots, etc.

285. What is true of color is also true of flavor, which equally depends upon light for its existence; because flavor is produced by chemical alterations in the sap caused by exposure to light.

286. The same thing occ

# The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1868.

**TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER,**

**$2.00 in advance, or $2.50 if not paid within three months of the date of Subscription.**

☞ *These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.* ☜

All payments made by subscribers to the FARMER will be credited in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us *the name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with this request.

**COLLECTORS' NOTICE.**

Mr. V. DARLING is now canvassing the county of York.

Mr. C. S. AYER will call on our subscribers in Sagadahoc county during the ensuing few weeks.

Mr. S. N. TABER is now visiting our subscribers in Waldo County.


### *Editorial Correspondence.*

FORT FAIRFIELD, Nov. 4, 1868.

DEAR FARMER:—This town embraces two original townships, consequently it is six miles in breadth and twelve in length. The Aroostook river runs through the town, whose intervals make splendid farms. The land throughout the town lies in swells and there is scarcely any portion of it not capable of cultivation. On cultivating a few stone are usually found scattered through the soil. Two horses will break up the sward land with the greatest ease. The owners of these farms are rapidly developing them. We have been surprised to see how easily and how soon a handsome field could be made out of the forest. We went over the farm of Capt. Wm. True, situated a mile and a half from the village. He has a hundred acres nearly all cleared into a field which produces splendid crops. He contemplates devoting forty-five acres to crops the next year. Such a farm as that would be worth almost fabulous prices west of the Kennebec. He has two hundred and fifty acres in his farm. His brother Jonathan has a farm by the side of his. These two farms are destined to be among the handsomest in the State of Maine. The immense crops of different kinds attest to the value of the land in this vicinity. Wheat has produced thirty-five bushels to the acre. Buckwheat fifty bushels; oats one hundred and six bushels, and potatoes three hundred bushels. These figures it is understood are above the average crop. A thousand bushels of grain and a thousand bushels of potatoes is no uncommon event on one farm. Durham and Hereford stock are the most common. Many persons keep bees. Among them is Winslow Hall of Presque Isle, who has some sixty swarms. The honey is superior. We asked one man who had quite a lot of hives, what he did with the honey. "We eat it," was his laconic reply. We met a man who had raised the present year at the rate of thirty six bushels of beans to the acre. Men who have had a little surplus capital have been able to realize handsome returns for all their outlay.

The town of Fort Fairfield contains probably about sixteen hundred inhabitants. At the State election the present year it threw three hundred and eighteen votes. The village is a thriving one, situated on the banks of the Aroostook. We were surprised at the large and well filled stores. Goods are furnished at cheap rates. It is only seven miles to navigation on the St. John river by which goods are brought by way of St. John from Boston during the spring and fall months. The village is about one mile in length. The houses are neat and tasteful. It has two large halls, and a school-house that cost between two and three thousand dollars, whose grounds are graded up the best of any school-house we ever saw in the State. A large High School is in a flourishing condition. An Episcopal Church will be erected the next season. The people are as intelligent and as public-spirited as may be seen in many a village of far greater pretensions. It is destined to be a place of no mean importance. No village in the State is surrounded with such agricultural resources as this.

CARIBOU, Nov. 4, 1868.

DEAR FARMER:—Bidding adieu to Fort Fairfield, we took a ride to Caribou, a distance of twelve miles. The road runs along the banks of the Aroostook river nearly all the way. Splendid intervals greet the eye on both sides of the way the whole distance. Unfortunately much of the land is occupied by families from the Provinces who manifest no desire for improvement. With splendid intervals they still live in log cabins and have log hovels for barns. It is to be hoped that the enterprising Yankees will buy out these drones.

Before leaving Fort Fairfield we passed a Catholic Church of the most primitive style of architecture.—At length we approached Caribou, which has been incorporated into a town by the name of Lyndon. The former name should be retained. A primitive ferry boat conveyed us and our team safely across the Aroostook. It is expected that a bridge will be built here the next season. The river is about five hundred feet wide and flows along with a gentle current. The late rains have caused it to rise. So long and quiet is the current that it takes two days at least for the river to rise much at this place. Our thanks are due to everybody we met for their lavish kindness to us while there.

The village is situated on Caribou river a short distance from each other, affording the best water power in Northern Aroostook. Two of the falls are occupied and it is expected that the third will have a woolen mill erected on them the next season. This will add greatly to the interests of farmers in that vicinity.

Caribou is the most northerly settled town in the State. It is a little farther north than Quebec, and is farther north than Oxford or Somerset counties. It is the centre of a good deal of trade from a splendid agricultural country all around it. It is growing rapidly. Quite a number of new buildings have been erected the present year, and among them a beautiful church. The houses are as neat and elegant as in the villages of western Maine, surrounded with beautiful rows and clumps of evergreens which grow here abundantly. We can see fir trees that have grown two feet in height the present season. The inhabitants are intelligent and active. They have a flourishing High School under the direction of Dr. —— Hatch, a graduate of Waterville College. The intellectual activity of the place is equal to that of any place we have ever visited. Far north as this is, we saw as handsome a bin of corn as we have seen anywhere, that was raised here the present season. The frosts do not trouble them as formerly. We met a large number of persons who have moved here from Oxford county. They are thriving and happy. Not one of them has expressed to us the least desire to go back, and we did not wonder at it. Such a community as this argues well for the future of this portion of the State. Every family has its newspaper, and some take several. We have found no town in our travels where so many men were so well read in geology as here.

The travel from the Upper Aroostook country passes through here. The distance to Fort Kent is seventy miles, but a new road is in progress of construction, which will shorten the distance to about fifty miles. This road will open a vast country for settlement. Taking a walk to the farm of Mr. Harsden, west of the village we had a splendid view of the interminable forests to the north. What a vast amount of lumber still exists here in a country threaded by innumerable small streams which serve as conveyances to the great ocean.

At last we bid good-bye to Caribou and took stage for Presque Isle on our way homeward. The road passes by excellent farms and farm houses. A day's ride carried us to Houlton and another to Mattawamkeag, where the same blazing fire greeted us as on our first visit. The only accident we met was the loss of a splendid pair of mittens which had taken the prize at the County Fair. A fellow that would steal a pair of mittens from an editor is mean enough for anything. We have got track of him and hope that he will be serenaded a long time by wild cats. We were glad the act was not committed in Aroostook county.

We took the steamer at Winn under the command of Capt. Wm. Chesley and steamed down the Penobscot river to Oldtown. Nothing can be more delightful than a trip on one of these boats in pleasant weather. It requires much skill to navigate these boats and it is said that there are only three pilots that can do it. The one on which we were is one hundred feet long and draws when loaded two and a half feet of water. This must close a delightful visit to the Aroostook, one that will be remembered as a sunny spot in our memory.

EXTENSION OF SOMERSET & KENNEBEC RAILROAD. We learn from the Skowhegan *Reporter*, that the survey of the route for the extension of the Somerset & Kennebec Railroad from that place to Solon has just been completed, and the location decided upon is regarded as a very favorable one. The *Reporter* also says that a petition will be presented to the present Legislature, asking for a charter for the building of the same. There seems to be, judging from articles in the public journals of Somerset county, as well as in other papers of the State, considerable rivalry of opposing interests in regard to the extension of railroads into that section of Maine. In this rivalry, we have of course no interest whatever, and shall therefore take no part in the discussion which has grown out of it. Perhaps however, in justice to the managers of the Portland & Kennebec and Somerset & Kennebec Railroads, (the latter road being leased and controlled by the former) it will be proper to state that at a meeting of the Directors of the Portland & Kennebec Railroad, held March 7th, 1868, it was voted that that company build a first class railroad from Skowhegan to Norridgewock village, as soon as a similar road constructed by the citizens of the county, should be completed between Norridgewock and Anson, to be operated in connection therewith. They also voted to take a lease of the road for a term of fifty years, operate and keep it in repair, and pay a rent of $1,800 per mile annually for the same, commencing to use the road as soon as built to Norridgewock, and pay the *pro rata* rent as soon as the road should be completed to Anson, and also on the whole line whenever it was finished. This vote was concurred in by the Directors of the Somerset and Kennebec road, and the people of Somerset county, we are assured, were publicly and generally notified of such proposition. It would appear, from the fact that a railroad is in process of construction in the western part of Somerset county—some mention of which was made in a recent issue—and also from the statement made above of the extension of the Somerset & Kennebec road, that both parties are actively engaged in the prosecution of the work of building their respective lines into that portion of the State; and we desire to congratulate the people there upon the abundant railroad facilities that are to be extended to them. A new impetus will be given to the business prosperity of the county by the prosecution of these enterprises.

THE ELECTORAL VOTE OF MAINE. The Electoral College of this city met in the Senate Chamber of the State House, on Tuesday of this week. The College was called to order by Gen. Beal of Norway, on whose motion, Gen. Samuel P. Strickland of Bangor, was chosen temporary President. Maj. Wm. S. Dodge of Oxford, was chosen Secretary, and Gen. Benj. F. Harris was appointed messenger.

A committee of two, consisting of Dennis L. Milliken of Waterville, and Ebenezer Knowlton of Montville, was chosen as committee on credentials, who reported that the following members of the college had been duly elected, and were present, viz., George L. Beal of Norway, Samuel P. Strickland of Bangor, Esreff H. Banks of Biddeford, Amos Nourse of Bath, D. L. Milliken of Waterville, Henry O. Perry of Mars Hill, and Ebenezer Knowlton of Montville.

The college was then permanently organized, by the choice of Dr. Amos Nourse of Bath, as President, who assumed the duties of his position by making a brief address.

The college then adjourned to Wednesday forenoon at ten o'clock, when it was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. King of Augusta. The college then proceeded to ballot for President, which resulted in casting the seven votes of the college for Grant and Colfax.

Gen. Geo. L. Beal of the college, was elected messenger to carry the vote to Washington.

Hon. Esreff H. Banks was charged to deliver one of the certified copies of the vote to the District Judge at Portland.

A resolution of thanks to the officers of the college was adopted, the presiding officer in return indulging in a few remarks, in which he hoped the labors of the college would result in lasting good to the country.

The college then adjourned without day.

☞ Gen. B. F. Butler, member of the Board of Managers of the U. S. Military Asylums, arrived on Sunday morning last in the steamer from Boston on a visit of inspection to the Asylum at Togus. We understand that the General expressed himself gratified with the condition of affairs at this institution and with the progress of the buildings now in process of construction for the accommodation of the inmates. When these buildings are completed, the increased number of disabled soldiers to be permanently assigned to the Togus Asylum will be about three hundred and fifty. Major Cutler, who has received the appointment of Governor General of the Asylums in Ohio, Wisconsin and Maine, will soon enter upon the discharge of his extended sphere of duty, with his headquarters at Dayton, Ohio. Capt. Weigle will succeed him as Deputy Governor at Togus.

BROWN'S CONCERT. On Saturday evening, Dec. 12th, that Comical Brown, the great original ribtickling, musical genius, is to give one of his popular entertainments at Granite Hall, assisted by Mr. Wm. Hayward, the favorite ballad singer. The entertainments given by Mr. Brown have always been very popular with the people, and wherever he goes a crowded house is sure to greet him. This year he offers a new programme, replete with things fresh, original and witty, sufficient to keep a crowd in good humor with themselves and everybody else for one season at least. People who have the blues or who expect to have them should go and hear "that Comical Brown." A list of Mr. Brown's engagements in this vicinity can be found in our advertising columns.

THE WEATHER is sharp and severe, and if we had six inches of snow upon the ground—which everybody would be glad to see—it would be called cold. Hereabouts, there is but little snow and our city teams all go on wheels; but we are informed that in the interior it is now excellent sleighing. Our friend Maj. Dill, writing from Phillips, Nov. 21st, says: "Snow in this vicinity is over a foot deep and sleighing good. Our cattle have come to the barn early and hungry, and hay goes like the dew before the morning sun. It does not spend as well as it did last season."

☞ We refer our readers to the advertisement in another column entitled "Libel Refuted." It is the reply of Dr. L. A. Shattuck of this city to certain charges made by Dr. Green of Boston. Dr. Shattuck has been a resident of Augusta for several years and has acquired an extensive practice in the specialties of the profession to which he has devoted himself, and so far as we know enjoys the confidence and respect of the community, in his business and social relations.

☞ The lectures announced to be given at Granite Hall in this city by Gen. Kilpatrick and the Rev. Mr. Nasby have been postponed, the first to Saturday evening, Dec. 19th, and the latter to some evening in January next. Gen. Kilpatrick's lecture will be given under the auspices of Post No. 20, G. A. R., and for the benefit of the destitute soldiers and sailors in the vicinity, and the widows and orphans of those who fell in the defence of the country.

☞ Miss Mary S. Keene, the accomplished Principal of the Girls' Grammar School in this city, has received leave of absence for the winter to visit friends in Florida, and for a season of necessary rest and relief from almost uninterrmitting school labor of the past ten years. She is expected to return and resume charge of the school at the commencement of the spring term. During her absence the services of Miss Sarah H. Ceith have been engaged for the school.

☞ J. H. Cochrane, Esq., of this city, Supervisor of Architect of the Treasury Department, has been ordered to suspend operations upon the Custom House buildings in Bangor and Wiscasset for the winter, and report at Washington forthwith for instructions. He will probably be sent to superintend Government works in the South or West.

☞ We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of a keg of excellent oysters from the well known establishment of James Freeman, 2 Union Wharf, Portland.

MAINE EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION. We last week were only able to notice in the briefest manner, the opening proceedings of the Educational Convention, held in this city. The attendance of teachers and other friends of education was very large and the proceedings throughout were of great interest.

On Monday afternoon at 4½ o'clock a preliminary meeting was held, Rev. Dr. Ballard, President of the Association, in the chair, and several committees were appointed.

In the evening Mayor Williams made an appropriate address of welcome, which was responded to by Rev. Dr. Ballard. He rejoiced over the progress which had been made in the cause of education, adverted to his own connection with the common schools of this State, and referred with satisfaction to the condition of our Normal schools, and the work they are accomplishing.

Mr. Johnson, the State Superintendent of Schools, excused the absence of several gentlemen who had been invited to take part in the deliberations of the Association, and quoted from an interesting letter from Dr. Harris, of Bowdoin College, in response to an invitation to be present. Mr. Johnson then read extracts from an elaborate report on the subject of education by Newton Bateman of Illinois. It was a masterly review of the "American System of Public Instruction." A fresh survey of the field of public instruction was rendered especially appropriate at this time by the amazing growth of the common school system of the North, and the opportunity so wonderfully presented of establishing similar systems among the waiting millions of the South. In devising a system of free public education, a State should aim to insure its own truest and grandest life. This consists of the same elements that constitute the highest development of individual man. And what are they? Virtue, intelligence, skill, fidelity, obedience, courage, self-reliance, industry, perseverance and the maximum of physical health and strength—possessed of these elements a man may truly live. A State composed of such men cannot decay or die. The seek the maximum material development is well; it is grand, inspiring. But the cold philosophy of economists and statesmen must be transfused with the glowing truth that the noblest end of human effort is the development and elevation of man himself. The moral and spiritual natures of children must receive their due proportion of culture. It is irrational and dangerous to ignore this fact in shaping a system of public education. Again, our youth must know more of the government under which they live; of its theory, of the frame-work of its fundamental law, of its practical administration and of its illustrious history.

This was a subject of transcendent importance in all its bearings upon our political future as a nation. One thoroughly American idea is the criterion of worth as the rule by which we determine a man's claim to respect. The question is not who is he, but what is he? Not where was he educated, but is he educated. Another American idea of public education is that general knowledge of men and things, of business and public affairs, which is demanded by our social and political system. Unlike the son of a peasant in Italy, Austria or Russia, the son of an American can never know beforehand in what sphere of action his life may be spent. The woful deficiency of the great mass of our free school pubils in this general knowledge, crops out everywhere. The school life of the great mass of our children is very brief. It would be immeasurably better to devote more of the time to this general knowledge, rather than to such topics as repeating decimals in Arithmetic, and fourfifths of the minutiæ of English Grammar. The esthetic element is also essential to the true American idea of popular education. The cultivation of this element is needed to sweep from our social and public life those foul blots of rudeness, coarseness and profanity which are the just opprobrium of our civilization.

Mr. Johnson remarked in conclusion that while we conceded to the West greater material development and political strength, we have ill filtered ourselves with the superiority of New England brain power. Was there not reason to fear that "brains" were also taking legs and moving westward? But beside the spirit of emulation, we had every inducement to greater activity in the cause of public instruction. He believed that more temperance and anti-tobacco communities could be produced through this agency, by convincing the intelligence, than by smiting public opinion with statutory enactments.

Then followed a desultory discussion upon questions suggested by the "Voice from the West" and the remarks of Mr. Johnson.

Dr. True of Bethel was afraid that the empire of mind had already been transferred to the West. He had been impressed with this idea by interviews with prominent educators in Wisconsin and in Chicago. But we are constantly contributing to this great empire of mind in the West. Our work is not confined to Maine alone.

Mr. Stone of Portland thought the New England institution of "bragging" had gone West as well as the best elements of her school systems. But he had no doubt that in some respects the school systems of the West were ahead of us. Beginning anew, it was easier for them to select all that was good from the New England and Middle States, than it was for us to eradicate old prejudices and conservative notions.

Mr. Rounds of Farmington admitted that the West had transplanted our free school institutions, but they had taken the best and left the worst. It is as true that we have "brains"—smart boys and girls enough left, but what inducements have we to keep them?

Mr. Fletcher of Castine, Rev. Mr. Norcross of Union, and Mr. French of Chesterville, spoke in a similar strain.

Mr. Sayward of Augusta, thought they were too despondent, and spoke for a few minutes in a very enlivening and encouraging manner. At 9 1-2 o'clock the Association adjourned till 9 o'clock this morning.

On Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock, the convention reassembled, and during the absence of the President, Hon. Nelson Dingley, Jr., of Lewiston, was temporarily called to the chair.

Some miscellaneous business was transacted, and then an Essay on Reading was read by C. B. Stetson of Lewiston. It was an able, practical and exhaustive analysis of the art and philosophy of reading, and occupied considerably over an hour in the delivery. He concluded that reading involved a three-fold labor, performed by the eye, the ear, and the vocal organs. A sluggish eye made invariably a bad reader; to read well one must always read with understanding. When the eye and mind perform their parts, the vocal organs will readily perform their functions. The best period of life for making a good reader was in childhood, and as the scholar advances in age he will be able to read with greater ease whatever comes within the scope of his understanding. He illustrated his various points by certain object lessons that contributed to the child's vocabulary, and gave as his opinion that object teaching was of the greatest value in making good readers. It was not until a certain peculiar mental development was manifest that books should be brought in requisition. He advocated a systematic chronological course of general reading, and recommended that there be used in every school a graded library composed of one hundred volumes or maze, divided into three subdivisions and to be owned by the school, as the best means of teaching reading. Mr. Stetson favored the using of charts, commencing with the simple pronunciation of words and proceeding until they extended into lengthy sentences and stories. Vocal drill was insisted upon as being absolutely necessary. He recommended a special training of the ear. He would make beauty in reading a specialty, not expression.

The reading of the essay was followed by an interesting discussion of various topics suggested, which was participated in by Messrs. Rounds of Farmington, Harrison of Waterville, Tash of Lewiston, Gross of Brunswick, Ballard of Brunswick, and others. Many valuable suggestions as to the best modes of reading were thrown out, while all seemed to agree as to the general drift of the essay.

This was followed by an excellent essay on Geography by Gilman H. Tucker of Boston. In the study of this science he would recommend a proper regard as to the mental growth of the child. He would suggest as a formula the development of the child's perceptive faculties, then the retentive faculties or memory, then the analytic, and then the reasoning powers. He presented his views as to a true conception of the science, as distinguished from a false conception, and the proper method of teaching it. He would recommend oral teaching in the first place. This is the preparatory course. Then he would recommend map drawing, and he gave his reasons for a study of maps, showing the advantages to be gained by acquiring a knowledge of the soil and climate of a country, of its adaptability for agricultural or manufacturing purposes.

The Convention then adjourned until two o'clock in the afternoon.

Previous to adjournment the following officers of the association for the ensuing year were elected:

President, A. P. Stone of Portland; Vice President, J. H. Hanson of Waterville; Secretary and Treasurer, C. B. Stetson of Auburn; Executive Committee, C. C. Rounds of Farmington, J. E. Littlefield of Bangor, J. P. Gross of Brunswick, G. T. Fletcher of Castine, M. C. Fernald of Orono, J. B. Webb of Yarmouth and L. D. Carver of Hallowell.

The subject of reading was then further discussed—Dr. True of Bethel calling the attention of the Convention to one or two points that were indirectly touched upon in the forenoon. He believed that the great majority of the poor readers was owing to their being poor spellers, and he cited practical applications. He thought that instead of object lessons the mother's instructive nature better fitted her for giving the child the right kind of instruction, using language—as she does—that the child fully understands.

Prof. Fletcher of Castine hoped that the monotonous tone that is acquired in primary schools would be overcome. Our reading books should also present such matter as is interesting to the scholar.

Prof. Rounds of Farmington spoke of the absurdity of teaching the alphabet first. He favored the spelling of words by sound.

Otis H. Bowler of Boston then spoke for nearly one hour on writing. He discussed the objects to be gained in the art of penmanship, contending that it was as easy to make a whole class of good writers as one or two. This was best accomplished by class teachings. Two things he deemed necessary, namely: A clear mental conception, and command of the pen movement. Exercises should be used to gain command of the pen. He urged the awakening of a new interest in the art of writing.

Mr. A. P. Stone, Principal of the Portland High School, then proceeded to the delivery of an address on the History of our Common Schools, which was full of practical and valuable suggestions clearly and forcibly expressed. A brief discussion ensued on the subject of Mr. Stone's address, and a vote was passed requesting a copy of the same for publication. A resolution was also passed, heartily approving of the Essay on Reading by Mr. Stetson, and requesting a copy for publication in the proceedings of the Convention.

The session in the evening opened with a discussion of our common school system, by Mr. Johnson, State Superintendent. At the outset Mr. Johnson gave a few facts and figures respecting the working of our common school system, presenting them in a comparative statement, from which the following are selected:

Whole number of scholars between the ages of 4 and 21 in Maine, in 1868, 241,883; in 1868, 225,200.

Average attendance of scholars in 1868, 122,000; in 1868, 97,000.

Number of schoolhouses built in 1858, 134; costing $66,000; in 1868, 93, costing $332,000.

Whole amount expended for school purposes in 1858, $623,629; in 1868, $1,132,498.

Average attendance of scholars ten years ago, 47 per cent.; now, 42 per cent.

Mr. Johnson then proceeded to speak of the defects which existed in our school system, and proposed the following remedies:

*First.* In the matter of school districts he would not only dispense with agents, but would abolish the district itself.

*Second.* By the adoption of the old-fashioned county institute system, improved, we should send out a trained body of better teachers.

*Third.* We need county supervisors, or at least some intermediate agency between the State Superintendent and County Committees. We should get by this better inspection.

*Fourth.* We need a State uniformity of text books, by which can be saved annually at least $25,000, an amount sufficient to pay for the establishment of county institutes, and that of county supervisorships.

*Fifth.* We must have compulsory attendance of children between the ages of eight and sixteen years, inclusive, at least three months in either a private or public school. Mr. Johnson elaborated upon these points in an address of an hour, which was listened to with marked attention, and at the close secured a burst of applause.

The discussion was continued by Prof. Fletcher and Messrs. Chase of Portland, French of Chesterville, Weston of Farmington, True of Bethel, Dingley of Lewiston, Dyke of Bath, and several others. All of the speakers agreed in the main with Mr. Johnson in the views he had presented, and gave their indorsement of the excellent suggestions he had thrown out.

Resolutions were adopted sustaining the *Maine Normal*, an educational magazine now published in Portland, and suggesting that the name be changed to the *Maine Teacher*.

On Wednesday morning, the business of the Convention was concluded. A series of resolutions were adopted, among which was one approving the recommendation of the State Superintendent for the establishment in this State of a system of county and district supervisors, and also for the revival of the system of county institutes improved and extended, and urging upon the Legislature the importance of promptly taking measures to secure the inauguration of these reforms.

An interesting and instructive address on Method in Education was read by George A. Walton of Westfield, Mass.

A resolution was adopted expressing the opinion that the District system ought to be abolished at once, and recommending that the employment of teachers be transferred from Agents to Superintending School Committees.

The Convention then adjourned without date. The session was an exceedingly interesting and profitable one, largely attended, having brought together the ablest and most prominent of our public educators, and the interchange of views that has taken place cannot fail to advance the interests of education in Maine and inaugurate a new era in its progress.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS. It is semi-officially announced from the State Department, that the protocol agreed upon by Reverdy Johnson and Lord Stanley, has three articles. The first article provides for a general settlement of all claims arising since 1853. The second makes special provision for the settlement of those claims known in the diplomatic correspondence between the two countries as the "Alabama claims." The third provides for a joint commission, composed of four members, two of whom shall be chosen by each power. This commission is to sit in Washington, and when all its members are not unanimous on any point, such point is to be referred to the head of some friendly power not named for arbitration. It is said to be the general opinion in Washington, that while both Mr. Johnson and Mr. Seward are anxious to have the Alabama claims arranged before they go out of their respective offices, they hesitate about accepting such terms as Lord Stanley has imposed Our Government claimed some years ago—and the claim was sustained—that British and French subjects who were in Mexico when our armies conquered that country, had no grounds for damages, they having linked their fortunes with the Mexicans. It cannot, therefore, be supposed that we will even consider the forty-five millions of dollars, or more, trumped up by those subjects of John Bull who were at the South during the war, and who all sympathized with the rebels. Besides, Congress has resolved that the claims of those of our citizens who were at the South, and whose property was taken by the Union army, cannot be considered, although they have Quartermasters' receipts and can prove their own loyalty. It is also known that a Commissioner of the French Government has been collecting the claims of French subjects who were at the South during the rebellion, so that if Queen Victoria's account should be recognized, Napoleon will present his.

AFFAIRS IN LOUISIANA. A despatch from Washington, dated the 25th ult., notices the arrival in that city from New Orleans, of Col. R. B. Keeler, of Gen. Rousseau's staff, bringing the General's official report of the operations in his command, also a report of the recent disturbances in Louisiana. These were delivered to Gen. Grant. The Colonel has also had interviews with the President and Secretary of War, and some of the prominent members of Congress who have arrived there, giving details derived from personal observation in New Orleans, all of which could not well be included in the general report. Col. Keeler represents that the hostility of the white people of Louisiana generally to the present State Government as most bitter and intense, and that with the force under Gen. Rousseau's command during the recent trouble, it was utterly impossible to preserve the peace at all points. Every disposition of his troops was made, and every possible measure taken to protect the people in their rights, without regard to party. The Republicans did not generally vote, because they were advised not to attempt to do so by their leaders, who believed they could not do so with safety to their persons. In this Gen. Rousseau concurred, but with the means at his command he was utterly powerless to establish a different order of things. Gen. Rousseau was in constant consultation with Gov. Warmouth, and other State authorities during the disturbances, and his course met their warm approval, as it does of all classes in New Orleans.

CATTLE DISEASE IN NEW YORK. On Thursday of last week, Mr. Dusenbury of Warwick, Orange Co., turned his cows, eighteen in all, into a cornfield on his farm; on that day one of the animals was attacked with symptoms of deadly disease, dying in four hours after being taken. Between Thursday and Saturday six out of the eighteen died. A cow on being taken would roll her head about wildly and stand in one position for an hour, then start and drop in her tracks, death ensuing a few hours later. Dr. Montard made a post mortem examination of several animals, but found no symptoms of Texas or any other disease, the organs all being in apparently healthy condition, the brain only being slightly congested. Three of the animals became mad and before succumbing to the disease went for the men who were in the field, but on making their charge, being evaded, the cows dropped and soon died. The symptoms indicated cerebro spinal disturbance, and it is supposed the cows found in the cornfield some poisonous substance, of which they partook freely, possibly corn smut, of which there was a good deal to be found.

☞ English papers speak of two American preachers of the Society of Friends, Eli and Sybil Jones, of China in this State, as engaged in holding religious meetings, largely attended, in the counties of Devon, Somerset, Wilts and Gloucester. These devoted preachers left this country in the spring of 1867, with the intention of being absent about three years, during which time they would visit Palestine.

☞ We understand that a slight "irregularity" has come to light recently in the affairs of the Union Bank in Brunswick. The matter is being investigated. Thus far the amount missing and unaccounted for is about $6000, consisting principally of bonds and other funds of the bank.

NEW BRIDGE. The bridge across the Androscoggin river at East Turner, carried away by an ice freshet two years ago, has been rebuilt in a thorough manner, and is now open to the traveling public.

### *Editor's Table.*

DRAWING WITHOUT A MASTER. The Cave Method of Learning to draw from Memory. Translated from the French of M. Marie Elizabeth Cave. New York: G. P. Putnam & Son, 661 Broadway. 11 mo. pp 134.

We commend this work to the reading of all American women, not particularly for the information it conveys on the new method of drawing it describes, but for the sensible and generally correct views (scattered with ample profusion through its pages) upon dress, fashion, deportment, and the work and mission of woman. It will well repay perusal, even if the reader has no idea of learning to draw from memory. For sale in this city by J. Frank Pierce, who has upon his counter all the new books and magazines as soon as issued.

DECEMBER MAGAZINES. The following magazines for December—which we have not room to mention specially—have been received: *The Lady's Friend*, Philadelphia, Deacon & Peterson; *Hours at Home*, New York, C. Scribner & Co.; *The Children's Hour*, Philadelphia, T. S. Arthur & Son; *The Nursery*, (which we *must* commend to the attention of teachers and parents, as the best work for *little* little folks) Boston, J. L. Shorey; *The Little Corporal*, Chicago, A. L. Sewall.

PUTNAM'S MAGAZINE for December opens with Mr Howell's poem, "No Love Lost," (which has also been reprinted in a dainty little volume) and contains other interesting contributions. The article on The Operations of the Treasury Department, accompanied with a fine portrait of Secretary McCulloch, will be read with attention. A new volume of this national magazine commences in January. Terms $4 per annum. Single numbers for sale in this city by J. Frank Pierce Water street.

BOOKS FOR LITTLE READERS. Messrs. Woodworth Ainsworth & Co., Boston, send us through Mr. E. E. Patterson, some pretty little books for readers of five or six years of age. They are of the series of "Wood lawn Stories," by Mrs. Leslie, printed with large type, and in plain, simple language. For holida presents to small children, nothing could be prettier.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for December has eighteen articles, besides the usual editorial departments, and contains thirty-seven illustrations. The number commences the thirty-eighth volume, and we have so often commended it, that words of praise must seem useless to our readers. Subscriptions received at Pierce's Periodical Depot, in this city.

☞ Messrs. Dick & Fitzgerald, New York, publish "Bradder Bones, Book of all Stump Speeches and Burlesque Orations," and Wilson's "Book of Recitations and Dialogues," both of which are sufficiently explained by their titles, and either can be obtained at Fenno's, North's Block, Water street.

THE GORDIAN KNOT. The re-publication of a novel by Shirley Brooks, a well known English author, which was first given to the public in serial form some years ago. New York: Harper & Brothers; Augusta: Edward Fenno.

SCHOOL LYRICS. Under this title the Messrs. Harper have published in a neat pocket volume a collection of sacred hymns for devotional exercises in schools. It is, however, only half complete, for it is lacking in tunes.

THE RIGHTFUL HEIR. This drama by Lord Lytton—which forms an article in Harper's Monthly for December—has been re-published in pamphlet form by the Harpers, and can be had at Fennos, this city. Price 15 cents.

THE FIVE THOUSAND MILE WALKING MATCH. Edward Payson Weston, the pedestrian, commenced on Tuesday last the performance of his great walking eat, from Bangor in this State, to St. Paul's, Minnesota, thence down the Mississippi to St. Louis, and back as far as New York, a distance of five thousand miles, in one hundred days, for the sum, if successful, of $20,000. By the terms of his engagement, he will not be allowed to walk on the Sabbath, so that the distance above stated is really to be accomplished in eighty-six days, or at the rate of fifty-eight miles per day.

The Bangor *Whig* says that Mr. Weston arrived in that city on Saturday last, preparatory to the commencement of his arduous undertaking, and speaks of him as "a gentleman of good address, of strictly temperate habits—which contribute to his remarkable power of endurance—small in stature, and of spare and wiry figure. He never is 'in training,' and does not believe in professional preparations, proving by his own experience that a healthy man need only to follow the laws of nature to be always in readiness for any exercise possible for him to perform without injury.

Mr. Weston is accompanied by Maj. T. G. Field, editor of the Girard (Pa.) *Cosmopolite*, who acts as his agent; J. B. Kiblor, Treasurer; L. H. Salmon, reporter for the *Turf, Field and Farm*; and Messrs. Daniel Palmer, Hiram Patten, and Geo. H. Warren, who act as umpires. These gentlemen will travel with him over the whole route in carriages, to be exchanged at short intervals. His route the first day was through Hampden, Winterport, Frankfort and Searsport, to Belfast. On the second day, Wednesday, he was to walk from Belfast to Hallowell, reaching that place at 5 o'clock P. M.

THE PRESIDENTIAL VOTE OF MAINE. The following is the official vote in the several counties of Maine for President, as received at the office of the Secretary of State:

| *Counties.* | *Grant.* | *Seymour.* |
|---|---|---|
| Androscoggin, | 4427 | 3060 |
| Aroostook, | 1706 | 657 |
| Cumberland, | 9139 | 6046 |
| Franklin, | 2420 | 1407 |
| Hancock, | 3520 | 2433 |
| Kennebec, | 7283 | 3062 |
| Knox, | 2762 | 2447 |
| Lincoln, | 2589 | 1940 |
| Oxford, | 4406 | 2901 |
| Penobscot, | 8831 | 4109 |
| Piscataquis, | 1821 | 4109 |
| Sagadahoc, | 2478 | 993 |
| Somerset, | 4397 | 2583 |
| Waldo, | 4114 | 2424 |
| Washington, | 3677 | 2848 |
| York, | 6856 | 5517 |
| | 70,433 | 42,397 |

Whole number of votes, 112,830; majority for Grant, 28,030.

COMMUTATION OF THE DEATH PENALTY. At the session of the Governor's Council last week, the sentence of Chas. H. Keenan, a sailor convicted a little over a year ago of the murder of a man named Johnson, at a boarding-house in Portland, was commuted to imprisonment for life. It was alleged that the stabbing was done in self defence, and the circumstances of the case were such as appealed strongly to the clemency of the executive. It is doubtful if he was guilty of wilful murder, and certain that the act, committed at high noon, and in the presence of witnesses, was unpremeditated. Under these circumstances, the Governor and Council have very properly interposed the executive prerogative and the State will be spared the pain and disgrace of another hanging exhibition.

DEATH OF REV. WHEELOCK CRAIG. The New Bedford *Mercury* states that a despatch received from Neufshatel, Switzerland, announces the death of Rev. Wheelock Craig, who for nearly twenty years was pastor of the Fourth Street Trinitarian Church of that city. Mr. Craig was a son of the late Elias Craig, Esq., of this city, and son-in-law of Dr. Cyrus Briggs. His decease was not unexpected, as he left this country several months since in poos health, and letters from him have measurably prepared his friends for the sad event. He was a gentleman of superior intellectual culture and ability, and a devoted and conscientious christian minister.

☞ Died in Washington, D. C., Nov. 19th, at the age of fifty-nine years, Wm. A. Fitzgerald, Esq., a native of Boston, but for the last thirty years a resident of Washington, and for more than twenty years connected with the office of the *National Intelligencer*, during the administrations of Van Buren, Harrison, Polk, Taylor, and Pierce, in the capacity of foreman and proof reader of the public documents and State papers published during that period by Gales & Seaton. He was a gentleman of fine literary culture and talent, and most estimable character.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS. Persons desirous of making presents for the holidays, will find a brilliant display of moss work, fir wreaths and emblems, needle-books, and a great variety of fancy articles, at the store of the Misses Noble on Winthrop street, just above the Waverly Hall, on and after Tuesday of next week, the 8th of December.

### *Items of State News.*

The Milwaukie *Wisconsin* records the passage through that city of a little girl of ten years, on her way from Northwestern Minnesota to Skowhegan. She was travelling all alone. Her parents, named Stacey, had emigrated to Minnesota to Maine fourteen years ago, and being both dead, their little daughter was on her way home.

The whole territory of Maine, containing an area of 32,000 square miles, was purchased by Massachusetts, of Mason ans Gorges, (to whom it was transferred in 1624 by the Plymouth company) for the paltry sum of £1,250, an amount sufficient only to buy a decent farm at the present day.

On Thursday last, a little boy aged about five and a half years, son of Mr. Thomas Toohey of Hallowell, went upon the shore ice in the river near Leigh's Wharf, and unwittingly walked off the edge into the current. He immediately sank and was drowned. The body was subsequently recovered.

The Secretary of the State of Florida, writes the Lewiston *Journal* from Tallahassee, under date of Nov. 19th, for information by mail from the friends of Silas C. Barker. He was a commissioned officer in the 21 Maine Cavalry. At the close of the war he was mustered out of the service in Florida. It is supposed he was formerly a resident of Lewiston.

A hearing was had before the Governor and Council, Nov. 20th, on the petition for the pardon of John G. Collins, convicted and now in jail for fraudulent voting in Industry, at the September election. A pardon was denied.

The team of Wm. Moody, a resident of Wells, being left unattended, ran away with his two little sons in the wagon. One of the boys escaped injury, but the other was dragged about thirty yards over the frozen ground, and mangled in a most awful manner. When taken up by his agonized father, he said: "Pa, I've got to die," and after enduring the greatest suffering, expired in about ten hours.

One day last week, Mr. Leander Daggett of New Vineyard, while at work in his saw mill, had his foot caught and so shockingly mangled, as to require immediate amputation. He refused to have the operation performed, and we learn that gangrene set in, rom the effects of which he died on Sunday morning last.

The fishermen of Hancock county have made good profits generally, rather better than the average. In the fish oil business, the small operators have gener

# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.


## Foreign News.

### LATEST FROM EUROPE.

**Dispatches via. Atlantic Telegraph.**

LONDON, Nov. 23. The funeral of a rioter shot at Drogheda, Ireland, during the elections, was the occasion of a Fenian display in that city, Sunday.

Great crowds lined the streets, and it is computed that there were fully eight thousand men in the procession.

The Fenian demonstrations at Dublin and in Hyde Park in this city proved to be small and unimportant affairs.

MADRID, Nov. 23. In Spain the advocates of Republican institutions appear to be gaining ground. Barcelona favors the establishment of a Federal Republic.

NAPLES, Nov. 23. The eruption of Vesuvius is subsiding, and there are no fears for the safety of the adjacent villages.

LONDON, Nov. 23. The Right Hon. Wm. Gladstone and his Liberal colleague have been defeated in Southwest Lancashire. At the conclusion of the poll the vote stood for Mr. Cross (Conservative) 7730, C. Turner (Conservative) 7670, Mr. Gladstone (Liberal) 7390, Mr. Grenfield (Liberal) 6930.

At this hour the total figures are as follows: Liberals elected, 363; Conservatives, 246; Liberal majority, 117.

LONDON, Nov. 24. Letters from Buenos Ayres report that President Sarmiento is desirous of having the command of the army given to one of the United States Generals who distinguished themselves in the war of the rebellion.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* urges that the Alabama Claim Commission sit alternately in London and Washington for the convenience of both British and American claimants.

LONDON, Nov. 24. The French Government continues its prosecution of the press with unremitting severity. The editors of the *Temps, Tribune, Journal, De Paris, Reviet*, and *Louverier* have been summoned to appear before the civil tribunal on Friday next, to answer to the charges made against them for promoting the subscription for the Baudin monument.

MADRID, Nov. 24. Large public meetings have been held in Barcelona by both the Monarchist and Republican parties. Processions, with bands, parade the streets, and other demonstrations are made. But though political feeling runs high there, all the proceedings have been peaceable and order respected. The Monarchists are largely in the ascendant though the Republicans seem to be gaining ground. All the politic l parties in Madrid are preparing to make similar demonstrations, and there is every indication of a lively canvass for the forthcoming election.

BERLIN, Nov. 24. The new Prussian *Gazette*, the semi-official organ of the Government in reply to the Hungarian red-book says if war should ensue from the Schlerring dispute, the Germans of the North would show the same enthusiasm, and the Germans South the same patriotism as shown in 1813.

LONDON, Nov. 23. The *Globe* has an editorial on the reception of the Chinese Embassy by the Queen. It attaches great importance to the mission of Mr. Burlingame, and after describing its object says:

"America is favorable to a protective system while England desires uninterrupted intercourse. The interests of Europe and China are not conflicting, and the interests of Great Britan and the welfare of the Chinese are identical. If there is the smallest chance of advantage accruing from the proposed treaty, let us ratify it with the least possible delay."

LONDON, Nov. 25. The *Times* says that the Liberal majority in the new House will be 118. The defeat of Mr. Gladstone for the Southwest Lancashire District is mainly due to the local dislike of the people in that district.

LONDON, Nov. 26. Jefferson Davis, who is stopping at Leamington, has delivered a discourse on the importance of exploring Jerusalem and the peculiar fitness of Englishmen for the honorable task.

WIGAN, England, Nov. 26. A terrible explosion has occurred in the Arley Mine Colliery. Three hundred men were in the pit at the time, most, if not all, of whom have perished. Thirty-two bodies have thus far been recovered. Hundreds of relatives of the dead are gathered at the mouth of the pit and the scene is heart rending.

DUBLIN, Nov. 26. Requiem masses were celebrated in Cork and at Queenstown for the repose of the souls of the Fenians who were executed at Manchester. In both cases a great demonstration was made, the people attending the ceremonies in large numbers. There was no interference on the part of the authorities, and good order was maintained.

LONDON, Nov. 26. Several persons have been arrested in Paris by the police for making speeches at public meetings.

PARIS, Nov. 26. The *Moniteur du Soir*, in an editorial on the Presidential election in the United States, says that Gen. Grant's large majority is a source of concord and tranquility. It believes that his policy will be to heal the wounds of the late war by measures of conciliation.

The same journal, in another article on South American affairs, says that the hopes of the allied powers of ending the war with Paraguay have not been realized. It adds that President Lopez is strongly entrenched at Villetta, and will continue the war even after the fall of Asuncion.

MADRID, Nov. 26. An immense and enthusiastic demonstration was made in Saragossa yesterday in favor of a republic, and a meeting was held and resolutions adopted, declaring that it is the will of the people that Spain should have a republican form of government. The Monarchists have held large public meetings at Corunna, Ferrol, Santiago, De Compostella and other places.

LONDON, Nov. 28. The *Times* to-day gives the following as the result of the election for members of the next House of Commons.—Liberals, 381; Conservatives, 266. Liberal majority, 115.

PARIS, Nov. 28. The *Patrie* of yesterday says there is a faction in Spain favorable to the formation of a triumvirate for five years.

MADRID, Nov. 28. Plazaga has gone to Paris. There have been many republican demonstrations throughout Spain within the past few days. The government has declared that the popular sense of the country is antagonistic to the establishment of a republic, and that the Cortes, soon to meet, will surely propose some form of monarchy.

FLORENCE, Nov. 28. Quite a serious outbreak had occurred at Bologna, and new troubles were feared. The disturbance originated through the refusal of the peasants to pay their taxes. Two persons have been killed and several badly wounded.

Dispatches have been received announcing that Mt. Etna, in Sicily, is in a state of eruption.

LONDON, Nov. 28. A correspondent of the Pall Mall *Gazette* says that Garibaldi is to leave his island home and emigrate to America. This determination has been arrived at in consequence of the reproaches of Mazzini and his friends, consequent on the General's failure in the Roman insurrection of last year.

LONDON, Nov. 28. Apprehensions of bloodshed in Spain are increasing. It is thought that a collision between the monarchists and republicans will be the inevitable result of the excited political contest now in progress.

A despatch from Madrid states that the subscription by the people to the national loan amounts to 319,000,000 reals.

MADRID, Nov. 29. A great Republican demonstration was made here at the close of last week. The young men of the city held a meeting, and amid great enthusiasm passed resolutions protesting against the rule excluding all persons under twenty-five years of age from the franchise. The people to the number of 15,000 crowded the square, where the meeting was held, and every allusion made by speakers to a republic was received with applause.

LISBON, Nov. 29. The mail steamer from Rio Janeiro and the South American ports, brings the following news from the seat of war in Paraguay:

The Brazilians sent a column of 12,000 across Gran Chaco forest to attack the position of President Lopez at Viletta in the flank. The Marquis D'Cocias was waiting developments. This flank movement was to attack the river batteries with his fleet of iron clads, and force communication with the army in Gran Chaco.

☞The closing session of the Fortieth Congress will commence on Monday next, and close on the 4th of March, 1869. The session will be a brief and busy one, and it is desirable that the members shall address themselves to the exclusive consideration of such practical measures of public utility and economy as shall operate for the relief of the people from onerous and unnecessary taxation and the benefit of the public service. Among the important matters which it is for the interest of the country should receive especial attention, are the following:

1. Pass the "Civil Service bill" of Hon. T. A. Jenckes.
2. Complete and pass the new Tax bill, reducing taxation wherever possible.
3. Reducing expenses in all departments, and decrease the proportion of costly officers in army and navy.
4. Put Indian affairs in charge of the War Department.
5. Let lands acquired by treaty from the Indians be sold at public land offices, and not in large tracts to speculators.
6. Grant no subsidies to railroads.
7. Stop useless appropriations for Custom-houses and hospitals.
8. Adopt measures to turn the balance of trade in our favor, that our coin may be left at home, as a means of resuming specie payments.

ST. STEPHEN BANK. The St. Croix *Courier* publishes a statement of the affairs of the St. Stephen Bank, from which it appears that that the liabilities of the Bank for circulation and deposit amount to $271,859, while its assets amount to $548,255, or more than two dollars for one. Consequently the bill holders are in no danger of losing anything. The Directors of the Bank decided to suspend specie payment for a time, or until the present panic subsides. The Bank has a reserve fund of profits amounting to over $80,000, and its loss by the failure of J. S. Scovill, its agent in St. John, cannot reach the amount of its surplus.

EXPEDITION AGAINST THE INDIANS. The following account of the proposed winter campaign against the Indians, under the command of Gen. Sheridan, is contained in a despatch dated Fort Hays, Nov. 15th:

The entire force in the field is Gov. Crawford's (of Kansas) cavalry, 1,500 strong; seven companies of the 5th cavalry, eleven companies of the 7th cavalry, four companies of the 10th cavalry, one company of the 30th infantry (Forsyth's scouts,) amounting in all to about 3,000 men. There is part of a regiment at Fort Wallace—probably a reserve—and a force coming from the southwest to join Gen. Sully's command, now moving south toward the Arkansas and Canadian rivers. It is reported that many Indians will also join the expedition. The principal hostile tribes are the Arrapahoes, Apaches, Kiowas, Comanches, and a mixed outlawed band called Dog Soldiers. Among the latter are many white desperadoes. The Dog Soldiers are scattered about the headwaters of the streams north of Smoky Hill, and will probably remain north of the railroad all winter. The other four tribes are south of the Arkansas river, where they will build their lodges for the winter. They can muster from 3,000 to 5,000 warriors, all armed with carbines and revolvers, in addition to their arrows and knives, and are well supplied with ammunition. Gen. Sheridan will command the expedition in person. The plan is to attack the Indians in their winter quarters, destroy their lodges and every thing they have, take away their arms and force all those that escape slaughter to live on reservations below the Arkansas. The destination of the expedition will probably be Sand Plains, south of the Arkansas, making that point the base of supplies. Gen. Sheridan has a large supply of extra horses and the best outfit that has ever taken the field on the Plains.

## Special Notices.

### The Great Pictorial Annual.

Hostetter's United States Almanac for 1869, for distribution, gratis, throughout the United States and all civilized countries of the Western Hemisphere, will be published about the first of January, and all who wish to understand the true philosophy of health should read and ponder the valuable suggestions it contains. In addition to an admirable medical treatise on the causes, prevention and cure of a great variety of diseases, it embraces a large amount of information interesting to the merchant, mechanic, the miner, the farmer, the planter, and professional man; and the calculations have been made for such meridians and latitudes as are most suitable for a correct and comprehensive NATIONAL CALENDAR.

The nature, uses, and extraordinary sanitary effects of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS, the staple tonic and alterative of more than half the Christian world, are fully set forth in its pages, which are also interspersed with pictorial illustrations, valuable recipes for the household and farm, humorous anecdotes and other instructive and amusing reading matter, original and selected. Among the Annuals to appear with the opening of the year, this will be one of the most useful, and *may be had for the asking.* Send for copies to the Central Manufactory, at Pittsburgh, Pa., or to the nearest dealer in HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS. The BITTERS are sold in every city, town and village in the United States.

**MRS. A. W. KIDDER,**

**Botanic Physician.**

**No. 8, Milford St., Boston, Mass.**

*FORMERLY OF SOUTH NORRIDGEWOCK, ME.*

Would respectfully say to all who are suffering from Scrofula, Salt Rheum, Canker, Cancers, Sores in the Head Sore Eyes, Erysipelas, Fits, Dyspepsia, Deafness, Neuralgia, Rheumatic Troubles, Paralysis, Numb Palsy, Liver Disease, Heart Disease, Chronic Diarrhœa, Female Weakness in all its forms, Lung and Bronchial Difficulties, Bleeding Cough, Catarrh, Phthisic and Asthma, Dropsy, Chills and Fever, Kidney Diseases, Cholera Morbus, Worms in Children, Consumption when not firmly seated.

That the above named diseases, she will cure, if the patient is not out of the reach of medicine—(her directions to be strictly followed.)

She can be consulted by letter or otherwise, by giving a correct statement of the patient's case; medicine can be sent by Express or otherwise.

Mrs. Kidder will be in **Augusta**, at **Eureka Hall**, east side of the river, the last week in each month, until further notice. Send for circulars.

Boston, Dec. 1, 1868. 52tf

**THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND REMEDY.**

**DR. J. W. POLAND'S**

**WHITE PINE COMPOUND**

*Cures Sore Throat, Colds, Coughs, Diphtheria, Bronchitis Spitting of Blood, and Pulmonary Affections generally It is a remarkable remedy for Kidney Complaints, Diabetes, Difficulty of Voiding Urine, Bleeding from the Kidneys and Bladder, Gravel and other Complaints.*

BOSTON, Jan. 20, 1868.

POLAND'S WHITE PINE COMPOUND.—After having given it a thorough trial we can confidently recommend *Poland's White Pine Compound* as a very valuable article for the cure of colds, coughs, and pulmonic complaints generally. In several cases we have known it to give prompt relief when all other remedies which had been tried had failed. It is an article, which in a climate so promotive of sudden and severe colds as is that of New England, ought to be in every family; and we are sure that those who once obtain it and give it a fair trial, will not thereafter be willing to be without it.—*[Boston Journal.*

A VALUABLE MEDICINE. *Dr. Poland's White Pine Compound*, advertised in our columns, is a successful attempt to combine and apply the medicinal virtues of the White Pine Bark It has been thoroughly tested by people in this city and vicinity, and the proprietor has testimonials to its value from persons well known to our citizens. We recommend its trial in all those cases of disease to which it is adapted. It is for sale by all our druggists.—*[N. Y. Independent.*

The *White Pine Compound* is now sold in every part of the United States and British Provinces.

PREPARED AT THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANIC DEPOT, BOSTON, MASS. 4m42

**Incompatible.** We notice in the published formula of one of the most extensive manufacturers of Sarsaparilla, Pectorals, &c., that a combination of Sarsaparilla, Stillingae, Iron Podophilum is compounded and used under the name of Sarsaparilla, for the cure of chronic diseases Every educated physician must know that a combination of minerals with vegetables is incompatible; so also, in the combination of a powerful purgative with medicines possessing alterative, diuretic, sudorific properties designed to act on the absorbents and secretions of the skin, glands, &c., the only medium through which chronic scrofulous and skin diseases can be cured. The drastic purgative properties being, as in the case of the formula under consideration, so much greater than the alterative carries off through the alimentary canal, all the nutritious properties of the alterative before the absorbents are acted upon. In cases where it is desirable to furnish cathartics in chronic diseases they should be given separately, and at least six hours apart. No physician would give a drastic cathartic at the same time he administered blue pills or calomel. If the sick are affected with chronic diseases, use Ralway's Resolvent. If you wish a good cathartic, use Radway's Pills If suffering pain, use R. R. Relief. Sold by druggists. See Dr. Radway's Almanac for 1868. 2w51

NEW YORK, July 1st, 1868.

MR. EDITOR:—Several of your correspondents, very *old* and *respectable* no doubt, seem to be wonderfully exercised as to the origin of our PLANTATION BITTERS. So long as these Bitters are all that we represent them to be, we do not know that it makes any difference from whom they come or from whence they originated; but for the information of the public generally, and old Capt Weitz in particular, we will say that he told the truth, and that these Bitters originated in the West India Islands—that many of the ingredients have been favorably known for over a century, but our combination of Calisaya is entirely new, and our own. The rum and other materials are the same, and as your correspondent says, a better Bitters and Tonic is not made. We recommend them particularly for dyspepsia, fever and ague, debility, loss of appetite, and in all cases where a tonic and stimulent is required. P. H. DRAKE & CO.,

1x52 105 Liberty St., N. Y.

MAGNOLIA WATER.—Superior to the best imported German Cologne, and sold at half the price. 1y50

**TO HOLDERS OF GOVERNMENT BONDS**

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***UNION SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS,***

**40 State Street, Boston.**

LEE, HIGGINSON & CO offer for rent, Safes inside their Vaults, at rates from $20 to $100 per annum. They also offer to receive, on Special Deposit, as Bailees, securities of persons living in the country or traveling abroad, Officers of the Army and Navy, Masters of Vessels, and others. Circulars, containing full particulars, forwarded on application to

Boston, March 1, 1868. 1y13 HENRY LEE, MANAGER.

**250 VALUABLE RECEIPTS, BEAUTIFUL**

Arts, Ways to Make Money, New Discoveries, Choice Secrets, &c., sent free. Agents wanted. Address WOOD & CO., Vernon, N. J. 13t42

**What** is the surest remedy for an itching scalp, and to remove dandruff from the head? Hall's Sicilian Hair Renewer. 1m59

**Catarrh, Catarrh—Disgusting Complaint.**

Get pint bottles of WOLCOTT'S ANNIHILATOR. It will cure it. And if you have rheumatism, or any pain, get Wolcott's PAIN PAINT, in white wrappers, at all druggists. 2t52

**I AM BOUND TO SELL**

Good MELODIONS and ORGANS at very low prices. Please send for new Price List. R. M. MANSUR.

Augusta, Dec 1st. 2t52*

## Married.

In this city, Dec. 1st, by Rev. Mr. Bingham, Emery A. Fanborn of Readfield, to Annie E. D., daughter of L. W. Lithgow, Esq., of this city.

In this city, Nov. 26th, by Rev. E. H. W. Smith, Cornelius G. Burdin of Cambridge, to Harriet Lane of this city.

In this city, Nov. 24th, by Rev J. Ricker, William N. Hodges to Miss C. A. Nichols, both of this city.

In Atkinson, Oct. 31st, by Rev. J. T. House, Charles C. Weatherbee of Bangor, to Mary E. Wilson

In Belgrade, Nov. 24th, by Thos. Eldred, Esq., Isaac W. Stevens to Marcia Williams.

In Newburg, Nov. 26th, by Rev. Charles Rigby, Charles J. Tasker to Nellie M. Mansur, both of Monroe.

In Levant, Nov 14th, by Rev. J. H. Brown, Josiah Marden to Mrs. Sarah L. Harding.

## Died.

In this city, Nov. 29th, William H. Lombard, aged 50 years 7 months.

In East Winthrop, Nov. 28th, Isaac L. Perkins, aged 34 years.

In Vassalboro', Oct. 20th, Ella F. White, daughter of James D. White, aged 11 years; Nov. 21th, Susan F., wife of J. D. White, aged 33 years 10 months.

In West Gardiner, Oct. 30th, Mary Emma, eldest daughter of P. S and Lydia Hodgdon, aged 17 years 2 months.

In Detroit, Oct 9th, of congestion of the lungs, Deacon Michael Andrews, in the 60th year of his age. [Maine and Massachusetts paper please copy.]

**A GOOD ASSORTMENT**

Of Lap Robes at COLLER & HAMILTON'S.

**UNION SLEIGHS,**

The best in the market at COLLER & HAMILTON'S. 52

**SLEIGH AND STABLE BLANKETS,**

In every variety at COLLER & HAMILTON'S, to be sold at small profits. 52

**HOLLIDAY PRESENTS.**

A larger and better assortmeut of Shopping and Traveling Bags can be found at COLLER & HAMILTON'S, than elsewhere in the City: **To be sold low!** 52

THAT COMICAL BROWN,

**WILLIAM B. BROWN,**

THE

**GREAT COMIC GENIUS,**

AND

WILLIAM HAYWARD,

THE

**EMINENT BALLADIST,**

Will give one of their

**Unique Entertainments**

IN

RICHMOND, Wednesday Evening, Dec 9th.
GARDINER, Thursday Evening, Dec 10th.
HALLOWELL, Friday Evening, Dec. 11th.
AUGUSTA, Saturday Evening, Dec. 12th.

Tickets, 25 cents. Reserved Seats 35 cents. Doors open at 7 o'clock; Concert to commence at 7½ o'clock. 2w52

HARPER'S PERIODICALS.

MAGAZINE. WEEKLY. BAZAR. 1869 1869

*Harper's Magazine, Weekly, and Bazar.* These three periodicals fully merit the high encomiums which they have received from the press, and the support which has been given them by the reading public Whether one considers their beautiful and instructive illustrations, which leave untouched no subject of domestic or foreign importance—their literary merit, which has given them the highest place in the current literature—or their judicious editorial management—h y must be candidly pronounced the three best family periodicals in the world.—*The Advance: Chicago.*

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**HARPER'S MAGAZINE.**

The most popular Monthly in the world.—*New York Observer.*

It is one of the wonders of Journalism—the editorial management of HARPER'S.—*Nation.*

It meets precisely the popular taste, furnishing a pleasing and instructing variety of reading for all.—*Zion's Herald, Boston.*

"A complete Pictorial History of the Times."

**Harper's Weekly.**

AN ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER.

The model newspaper of our country—complete in all the departments of an American family paper—HARPER'S WEEKLY has earned for itself a right to its title, "A Journal of Civilization."—*New York Evening Post.*

This paper furnishes the best illustrations. Our future historians will enrich themselves out of HARPER'S WEEKLY long after writers and printers and publishers are turned to dust.—*New York Evangelist.*

The articles upon public questions which appear in HARPER'S WEEKLY from week to week form a remarkable series of brief political essays. They are distinguished by clear and pointed statement, by good common sense, by independence and breadth of view. They are the expression of mature conviction, high principle, and strong feeling, and take their place among the best newspaper writing of the time.—*North American Review.*

**An Illustrated Weekly Journal of Fashion, Pleasure, and Instruction.**

**Harper's Bazar.**

A Supplement containing numerous full-sized Patterns of useful articles accompanies the paper every fortnight, and occasionally an elegant Colored Fashion Plate.

HARPER'S BAZAR contains 16 folio pages of the size of HARPER'S WEEKLY, printed on superfine calendered paper, and is published weekly.

HARPER'S BAZAR contains, besides pictures, patterns, etc., a variety of matter of especial use and interest to the family; articles on health, dress, and housekeeping in all its branches; its editorial matter is specially adapted to the circle it is intended to interest and instruct; and it has, besides, good stories and literary matter of merit.—*New York Evening Post.*

It has the merit of being sensible, of conveying instruction, of giving excellent patterns in every department, and of being well stocked with good reading-matter.—*Watchman and Reflector.*

To dress according to HARPER'S BAZAR will be the aim and ambition of the women of America.—*Boston Transcript.*

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| HARPER'S MAGAZINE, | One Year, | $4 00 |
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1w52 Address HARPER & BROTHERS, New York.

**THE STANDARD BIBLE DICTIONARY!**

***TWELVE REASONS***

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COMPREHENSIVE

**DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE,**

*EDITED BY REV. SAMUEL W. BARNUM.*

Mainly abridged from Dr. Wm. Smith's Dictionary of the Bible Illustrated with Five Hundred Maps and Engravings.

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III. It is a Dictionary pronouncing and Defining Dictionary, all words being divided into their syllables, and the etymologies and significations carefully given.

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V. It has about two hundred more Maps and Illustrations than any other Abridgment, and more than the original work.

VI. It contains numerous Important Additions from the latest American, English, and German Authorities.

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VIII The significance and meaning of every Greek or Hebrew word is given in English, which is not done in other Dictionaries.

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*WANTED.—Experienced Agents wanted in all parts of the country to sell this important work.* Clergymen who have acted as book agents will find this work well worthy their attention. Exclusive territory given Our Subscription business is kept entirely distinct from our General business, and Subscription Books are not sold to the Trade.

**D. APPLETON & CO., Publishers,**

NEW YORK.

2w52

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**

The blood impoverished by the summer heats often at this season develops boils, ulcers, and pustulous eruptions. The cooling, healing, disinfecting properties of Holloway's Ointment render it the best possible dressing for those external nuisances, and in order to bring the whole mass of the blood into a healthful condition it will be prudent to tone the internal organs and regulate the secretions, with a few moderate doses of Holloway's Pills. Sold by all Druggists. 1t52

**A $10 GREENBACK FOR FIFTY CENTS.**

I have discovered a Chemical Washing Fluid which will make the clothes look nicer, *half* the usual labor. *Warranted not to injure the finest Linen.* Fluid enough for twenty-five ordinary washings will cost about forty cents Any one can make it. I will send the recipe for 50 cents. A GENUINE $10 GREENBACK will be presented to one purchaser in every fifty. You are liable to be the lucky one. Try it. This is no "Gift Enterprise," or "Lottery Swindle." I simply make this present as an inducement for people to try my Washing Fluid. Address

1w52 H. RICHARDS, Box 3986 New York City.

**CATARRH, BRONCHITIS, INCIPIENT CONSUMPTION AND SCROFULA.**

WILLIAM R. PRINCE, Nurseries, Flushing, cautions the public against the false pretences or curing these fatal diseases by "Medicated Fluids," or "Oxygenized Inhalations," or any stuffs, Troches or Powders whatever, as the diseases are in the blood, and medicines can only reach them through the arteries. The Boston *Journal of Chemistry* has stigmatized all inhalations as deceptive. The only positive remedies for these diseases I have obtained from plants, whose success is guaranteed. Medical Circulars 25 cents. Advice gratis. 2w52

**WANTED.**

Applications for circulars, stating why the LAMB KNITTING MACHINE is *Cheaper* and *Superior* in all essential points to any other. SAMPLE STOCKING sent, which no other machine can make. N. CLARK Agent, 313 Washington St. Boston. 4m52

**VINEGAR.**

I wish to send every farmer full printed directions to

**Make Pure Cider Vinegar from Cider, in Ten Hours,**

Without using acid or drugs of any kind. For terms and other information, address F. I. SAGE,

4w52 Practical Vinegar Manufacturer, Cornwel, Conn.

**$200 PER MONTH**

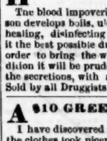
Will positively be made by my active Agents, male or female, introducing at one quarter the usual cost, an article of daily consumption in every family. Fully tested and highly recommended by Prof. J. L. Morse and Oren Daggett of Maine Wesleyan Seminary and Female College, and others.

Territory taken rapidly. Apply at once with stamp to

I. I. W SIMPSON,
Kent's Hill, Me.

3w52*

**STOCK FOR SALE.**



I now have for sale one three-year old and three bull calves. Also a few cows and heifers, all Thoroughbred Short Horns. Also Cotswold buck lambs, and full blood Chester and Suffolk Swine, from 2 to 8 months old. WARREN PERCIVAL.

Cross' Hill, Nov., 1868. 3w52

**U. S. BONDS,**

ALL ISSUES bought and sold at best market rates by KLING & POTTER BROS.

Also Gold, Silver, and Coupons. Revenue Stamps for sale. 3m52

**LIBEL REFUTED!**

**DR. SHATTUCK'S Reply to Dr. Greene.**

In refutation of the scandalous statements of Dr. Greene, I reply—First, why were those statements made? The reason is obvious. It has become generally known that I am a physician from the Boston Medical Institute, and meeting with marked success in my profession. This being the fact invalids in Maine would naturally prefer my treatment at less than one-half the expense to that of Dr. Greene's. He having more patients from Maine than any other State, and aware that my practice was rapidly increasing, well knew it would materially injure his own in this section; and to destroy the confidence reposed in me by the public, has most unjustifiably attacked my medical attainments, in which he has manifested not the slightest regard for truth The facts are these: I entered the Institute as a student, to learn Dr. Greene's mode of practice. I remained there nearly three years, and during the last of my stay was an Assistant Physician and Surgeon, for which I was paid a salary. Dr. Greene not being at the Institute then but about six hours in the twenty-four, much care of the patients devolved upon me. Besides this fact, I was accustomed to make the regular visits to our patients out of town, compound the medicine, &c., in fact, perform all the duties of a resident physician in any Medical Institution. A colored man was employed to build fires, do chores and the common labor. Having learned all that I could of him professionally, though Dr. Greene wished me to remain, I left the Institute, and I positively was not discharged, either for experimenting on patients (which I never attempted) or anything else. Some three months subsequently I was at the Institute and assisted Dr. Greene in a surgical operation, and if I was discharged, it is a singular fact that he should ask my assistance, or that I should render it. Besides, if I was a chore boy or a laborer, why should I be experimenting on his patients? In the second resolution appended to Dr. Greene's statement, he denounces as BASE IMPOSTERS, ALL who claim to have been his students. Is not this injustice to those students whose claims are honest? and that my own are so, I affirm; and the following testimonial with the fact that Dr. Greene had my name inserted in the Boston Directory for the years 1865-6-7, as a student, and in 1867 as a physician, and which may be seen in the Boston department of Briggs & Co's New England Directory for 1867, several copies of which are in this city, at least one at the Bridgo Business College, are ample proof.

"At the time I commenced my studies at Dr. Greene's, Dr. Shattuck was at the Institute, being a student of no ordinary ability, and was much beloved by Dr. Greene, the patients, and all who knew him, as far as I know. I was present when Dr. Shattuck withdrew from the Institute to commence the practice of his profession in Maine, and he was not to my knowledge discharged for experimenting on patients, for I have never known him to do so; and it is but just to condemn the effort to injure a man's well earned reputation by false impressions from false assertions. As a physician Dr. Shattuck is well read and deserves the patronage of the public.

DR. H. L. SWEET, Claremont, N. H."

"Dr. I. A. Shattuck of Augusta, Me., studied medicine with Dr. Reuben Greene of Boston, two years to my personal knowledge, being myself connected with the Institute at the time. He gave close application to his profession and was considered an honorable man, worthy of public patronage.

DR. S. J. SMITH, Mittinecague, Mass.

I was at the Institute when Dr. Smith came and when he left.

"Dr. Shattuck is a man of high moral standing, in whom the public may place implicit confidence His past success is sufficient proof of his skill and ability.

J. CONANT, M. D., West Boylston, Mass."

"To *whom it may concern:*—This may certify that to my certain knowledge, Dr. Shattuck was a student of Dr. Greene of Boston, the notable cancer Doctor, for nearly three years, and in my opinion Dr. Shattuck is a man of excellent morals, is a well educated physician, a trustworthy and honorable man, and certainly deserves the confidence and patronage of the public.

J. D. YOUNG, M. D., LAWRENCE, Mass."

"I have long been acquainted with Dr. Shattuck while connected with the Boston Medical Institute, and know him to be an honorable, upright, christian gentleman, and a skilful physician. E. WEBB, M. D., 17 Bedford St., Boston, Mass."

"To my certain knowledge, Dr. I. A Shattuck of Augusta, was a student at medicine under the tuition of Dr. R. Greene of Boston, for two years and a half. I have seen him perform difficult surgical operations with ability and skill. The effort of Dr. Greene to injure Dr. Shattuck is plainly for personal interests and deserves severe public censure.

DR. A. HOLMES, M. D., Belgrade, Me."

"In 1865, I was at Dr. Greene's to have a cancer removed. Dr. Shattuck was then a student at the Institute and assisted in performing the operation. I cheerfully commend him to the confidence of the public.

MRS. ELIZABETH LESTER, Niantic, Ct.

Attest: ENOCH LESTER."

Another fact: In a paper published by Dr. Greene he states that other competent physicians are employed at the Institute, who will visit patients unable to leave their homes in any part of the city or country, and that Dr. Hendrickson was employed to fill my place, a letter in my possession from Dr J. A. Greene is proof. From the above all can see that his effort for my injury is a base attempt for personal interest, to deprive me of the benefits of a thorough knowledge of his mode of practice, as I expect soon to be able to show by public trial.

"It was my privilege to witness a difficult surgical operation performed by Dr. Shattuck of this city upon the person of Mrs. Estes, viz: the removal of a cancer from under the arm, and so far as I am able to judge it was skillfully done. I have also known something of his success in other cases, and consider him skillful in his profession—worthy of public patronage.

REV C. A. KING, Pastor of the M. E. church, Augusta."

"From a personal acquaintance with Dr. Shattuck, and having been familiar with his success in practice I consider him skillful in his profession. He certainly has the ability to meet and overcome opposition and individual prejudices. The public should bear in mind that it is only at fruit trees that thieves throw stones.'

REV. EDWARD L. WENTWORTH, Vienna, Me."

"I have been under Dr. Shattuck's treatment for a Cancer on my nose and to all appearance it is cured. I had previously been under the treatment of Dr. Greene without apparent benefit. I believe Dr. Shattuck skilled in his profession.

W. TILTON, Sumner, Me.

"TO THE AFFLICTED:—This may certify that I had a Rose Cancer upon the side of my face for upwards of twenty years. Several physicians tried to cure it but their efforts were in vain. I was fast failing in strength, and it was obvious that unless I could receive help from some source but a very few months could elapse before life's tide would be low. By the advice of a physician I consulted Dr. Shattuck, who said it was a hard case but thought in time he could effect a cure He gave me medicine to cleanse my blood and removed the Cancer with plasters, and in a short time the sore healed, healthy and sound. I believe Dr. Shattuck a skillful physician, and advise all afflicted with Cancer or any other disease to consult him at once.

LEONARD AUSTIN, Belgrade Mills, Me.

"This certifies that I have been cured of a very difficult Cancer by Dr. I. A. Shattuck, of Augusta, whom I shall ever remember with the fullest gratitude for his kind and skillful treatment. Dr. Shattuck's great success points to no ordinary ability, while his strict adherence to honesty and morality and devotedness to his patients should ever secure the confidence and admiration of all. May God spare his life for others' benefit, is my humble prayer.

MRS. SETH PHILBROOK, McLane's Mills, Me."

Dr. Shattuck will visit any part of Maine to perform surgical operations or in consultation, or stipulated terms Among the many diseases treated and cured by his Electro Medicated Baths and vegetable remedies, are Cancer, Scrofula, Diseases of the Blood, Throat, Lungs, Liver, Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys, Female Complaints, &c., &c. He also has had large experience and good success in Acute Diseases, having as yet never lost a case of Croup, Dysphteria, or Fever of any kind. All calls promptly attended to, night or day. Send stamp for his "Papers on Cancer, &c."

**DR. I. A. SHATTUCK,**

**Office, corner Water and Bridge Sts.**

*RESIDENCE, NO. 10 GROVE ST., AUGUSTA, ME.*

52tf OFFICE HOURS FROM 10 TO 12 A. M., AND 1 TO 4 P. M.

**KENNEBEC COUNTY.....***In Probate Court at Augusta, on the fourth Monday of November,* 1868.

JOSIAH HASKELL, Guardian of Charles E., Melvin E., Emma V., Ida F., Herbert J., and Freddie W. Haskell, of China, in said county, minors, having petitioned for license to sell the following real estate of said wards, the proceeds to be placed on interest, viz: All the interest of said wards in the real estate of Albert Haskell, late of China, deceased, consisting of the homestead farm; the Bragg or Percival lot, so called, of about thirty-five acres, and the Orchard lot:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the fourth Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 52*

**KENNEBEC COUNTY.....***In Probate Court at Augusta, on the fourth Monday of November,* 1868.

HANNAH CASWELL, as the widow of William Sexton, late of Monmouth, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, having presented her petition for the appointment of Eugene W. Whitehouse, as Trustee under the will of said William Sexton:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the fourth Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 52*

**KENNEBEC COUNTY.....***In Probate Court at Augusta, on the fourth Monday of November,* 1868.

JOHN M. BOYINGTON, Executor of the will of John Boyington, late of Windsor, in said County, deceased, having petitioned for license to sell the following real estate of said deceased, for the support of the widow of said deceased, viz: His homestead farm in said Windsor:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the fourth Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. H. K. BAKER, *Judge.*

Attest: J. BURTON, *Register.* 52*

**KENNEBEC COUNTY.....***In Probate Court at Augusta, on the fourth Monday of November,* 1868.

JONATHAN B CLARK, Guardian of Wilson F. Clark, of China, in said County, minor, having presented his first account of Guardianship of said Ward for allowance:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the fourth Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER

## Poetry.

### THE OLD MAN'S SONG IN AUTUMN.

Oh, heart that beats in my breast,
Say why art thou so cast down?
Oh, is it grief for the days growing brief
And the fields that are gathering brown?

The wind blows gentle and soft;
The sun shines bright in the sky;
And the woods to-day were never more gay
In all of the years gone by.

The maples gleam in the vales
Like the watch-fires of a camp;
And the cardinal flower in her secret bower
Has lighted her crimson lamp.

Not all the birds have flown,
For the robin's voice sounds clear
From the orchard rows where his warm breast glows,
And the fields of stubble near.

But my heart an answer makes:—
"The robin's note is dry;
And the woods to-day are not half so gay
As they were in the years gone by.

"The Summer I loved has flown;
The lily has left her stalk;
And the roses are dead, both white and red,
That grew by the garden walk.

"The Autumn, I love it not,
For cold to me is its breath;
And its deepening blush seems the hectic flush
That bodes the coming of death.

"And Winter will follow soon,
Sobbing and moaning aloud;
And the earth below will whiten with snow
That falls from the frosty cloud."

—*Harper's Magazine for December.*

## Our Story-Teller.

### COMING HOME TO HIM!

A SEQUEL TO "MAJOR PARRIFER."

The year was getting on. Summer fruits were ripening. It had been a warm spring, and hot weather was upon us early.

One fine Sunday morning George Reed came out of his cottage and turned up Piefinch Lane. His little girls were with him, one in either hand, in their clean cotton frocks and pinafores, and straw hats. People had gone into church, and the bells had ceased. Reed had not been constant in attendance since the misfortune in the winter, when Major Parrifer put him into prison. The month's imprisonment had altered him; his daughter Cathy's mysterious absence had altered him more; he seemed not to like to face people, and any trifle was made an excuse to himself to keep away from service. To-day it was afforded by the baby's illness. Reed said he would take the little girls out a bit to keep the place quiet.

Rumors were abroad that he had heard once from Cathy; that she had told him that she should come back some day and surprise him and the neighbors, and she was "all right, and he had no call to fret after her." Whether this was truth, or pure rumor, Reed did not say; he was a closer man than he used to be.

Lifting the children over a stile in Piefinch Lane, Reed strolled along the cross path of the field. It brought him to the high hedge that skirted the premises of Major Parrifer. The man had taken it by chance, because it was a quiet walk. He was passing along slowly, the children having run into the field, on which the second crop of grass was beginning to grow, when voices on the hedge struck on his ear. Reed gently put some of the foliage aside, and looked through, just as Major Parrifer had looked through the hedge in Piefinch Lane at him that Sunday morning some few months ago.

Major Parrifer had been suffering from a temporary indisposition. He did not consider himself sufficiently recovered to attend service, but neither was he ill enough to lie in bed. With the departure of his family for church, the major had come strolling out in the garden in an airy dressing gown, and there saw his gardener picking peas.

"Holloa, Hotty! This ought to have been done before."

"Yes, sir, I know it; I'm a little late," answered Hotty; "I shall have done in two or three minutes. The cook makes a fuss if I pick 'em too early; she says they don't look so well."

The peas were for the delectation of the major's own palate, so he found no more fault. Hotty went on with his work, and the major gave a general look round. On a wall near, at right angles with the hedge through which Reed was then peering, some fine apricots were growing, green yet.

"These apricots want thinning, Hotty," observed the Major.

"I have thinned 'em some, sir."

"Not enough. Our apricots were not as fine last year as they ought to have been. I said then they had not had sufficient room to grow. Green apricots are always useful; they make the best tart known."

Major Parrifer walked to the greenhouse, outside which a small basket was hanging, brought it back, and began to pick some of the apricots where they looked too thick. Reed, outside, watched the process—not alone. As luck had it, a man appeared in the field path, who proved to be Gruff Blossom, the Jacobsons' groom, coming home to spend Sunday with his friend. Reed made a sign to Blossom for silence and caused him to look on also.

With the small basket half full, the major desisted, thinking possibly he had plucked enough, and turned away carrying it. Hotty came out from the peas then, his tasked finished. They strolled slowly down the path by the hedge; the major first, Hotty a step behind, talking about late and early peas, and whether Prussian blues or marrowfats were the best eating.

"Do you see those weeds in the onion-bed?" suddenly asked the major, stopping as they were passing it.

Hotty turned his head to look. A few weeds certainly had sprung up. He'd attend to it on the morrow, he told his master; and then said something about the work accumulating almost beyond him, since the boy had been at home ill.

"Pick them out now," said the major; "there's not a dozen of them."

Hotty stooped to do as he was bid. The major made no more ado but stooped also, he himself uprooting quite half of the weeds. Not much more, in all, than the dozen he had spoken of; and then they went on with their baskets to the house.

Never had George Reed experienced so much gratification since the day he came out of prison. "Did you see the major at it?—thinning his apricots and pulling up his weeds?" he asked of Gruff Blossom. And Blosom's reply, gruff as usual, was to ask what might be supposed to ail his eyes that he shouldn't see.

"Very good," said Reed.

One evening in the following week, when we were sitting out on the lawn, the Squire smoking, Mrs. Todhetley nursing her face in her hand, with toothache as usual, Tod teasing Hugh and Lena and I up in the beech tree, a horseman rode in. It proved to be Mr. Jacobson. Dwarf Giles took his horse, and he came and sat down on the bench. The Squire asked him what he'd take, and he chose cider; he was so thirsty he said. Which Thomas brought.

"Here's a go," began Mr. Jacobson. "Have you heard what's up?"

"I've not heard anything," answered the Squire.

"Major Parrifer has got a summons served him for working in his garden on a Sunday, and is to appear before the magistrates to-morrow," continued old Jacobson, drinking off a glass of cider at a draught.

"No!" cried Mr. Todhetley, staring.

"It's a fact. Blossom, our groom, has got a summons served him, to give evidence."

Mrs. Todhetley lifted her face; Tod left Hugh and Lena to themselves; I slid down from the beech tree; and we listened for more.

But Mr. Jacobson could not give particulars, or say much more than he already said. All he knew was that on Monday morning George Reed had appeared before the magistrates and made a complaint. At first they were unwilling to grant a summons, laughed at it; but Reed in a burst of reproach, civilly delivered, asked why there should be a law for the poor, and not for the rich, and in what lay the difference between himself and Major Parrifer; that the one should be called to account and punished for doing wrong, and the other was not even to be accused when he had done it.

"Brandon happened to be on the bench," concluded Mr. Jacobson. "He appeared struck with the argument, and signed the summons. 'My belief is,'" continued old Jacobson, with a wink over the cider glass at his lips, "that the granting of that summons was as good as a play to Brandon and the rest. I'd as lieve, though that they'd not brought Blossom into it."

"Why?" asked Mrs. Todhetley, who had been grieved at the time at the injustice done to Reed.

"Well" Parrifer is a disagreeable man to offend. And he is sure to visit Blossom's part in this on me."

"Let him," said Tod, with enthusiasm. "Well done, George Reed."

Be you very sure we went over to the fight. Squire Todhetley did not appear; at which Tod exploded a little; he only wished he was a magistrate, wouldn't he take his place and judge the major! But the Pater said, when people had lived to his age, they liked to be at peace with their neighbors—not but what he hoped Parrifer would "get it," for having been so hard upon Reed.

Major Parrifer came driving to the Court house in his high carriage with a great bluster, and his irongrey hair sticking up, two grooms attending him. Only the magistrates who had granted the summons sat. The news had gone about like wild-fire, and several were in the town and about, but did not take their places. I don't believe there was one would have lifted his finger to save the major from a month's imprisonment; but they did not care to sentence him to it.

It was a regular battle. Major Parrifer was in an awful passion all the time; asking, when he came in, how they dared summons him. *Him!* Mr. Brandon cool as a cucumber, answered in his squeaky voice, that when a complaint of breaking the law was preferred before them and sworn to by witnesses, they could only act upon it.

First of all, the major denied the facts. *He* work in his garden on a Sunday!—the very supposition was preposterous! Upon which George Reed, who was in his best clothes, and looked every bit as good as the major, and pleasanter, testified to what he had seen.

Major Parrifer, dancing with temper when he found had been locked at through the hedge, and that it was Reed who looked, gave the lie direct, and called his gardener, Richard Hotty, ordering him to testify whether he, the major, ever worked in his garden, either on Sundays or week-days.

"Hotty was working himself," interrupted George Reed. "He was picking peas; and he helped to weed the onion-bed. But it was by his master's orders, so it would be unjust to seek to punish him."

The major turned on Reed as if he would strike him, and demanded of the magistrates why they permitted the fellow to interrupt. They ordered Reed to be quiet, and told Hotty to proceed.

But Hotty was one of those slow men to whom anything like evasion is difficult. His master had thinned the apricot tree that Sunday morning; he had helped to weed the onion-bed; Hotty conscious of the fact, but not liking to admit it, stammered and stuttered, and made a poor figure of himself. Mr. Brandon thought he would help him out.

"Did your master pick the apricots?"

"I see him pick—just a few," answered Hotty, shuffling from one leg to the other in his perplexity. "Twan't to be called work, sir."

"Oh! And did he help you to weed the onion-bed?"

"There warn't a dozen weeds in it all," returned Hotty. "The major see 'em, and stooped down on the spur o' the moment, and me too. We had 'em up in a twinkling. 'Twarn't work, sir; couldn't be called it nohow. The major, he never do work at no time."

Blossom had not arrived, and it was hard to tell how the thing would terminate; the major had a witness, such as it was, protesting that nothing to be called work was done. Reed had none, as yet.

"Old Jacobson is keeping Blossom back, Johnny," whispered Tod. "It's a sin and shame."

"No, he is not," I said, "look there!"

Blossom was coming in. He had walked over, and not hurried himself. Major Parrifer cast daggers upon him, if looks could do it, but it made no difference to Blossom.

He gave his evidence in his usual surly manner. It was clear and straightforward. Major Parrifer had thinned the apricot tree for its own benefit; and had weeded the onion bed, Hotty helping at the weeds by order.

"What brought you spying at the place, James Blossom?" demanded a lawyer on the major's behalf.

"Accident," was the short answer.

"Indeed! You didn't go there on purpose, I suppose?—and skulk under the hedge on purpose?—and peer into the major's garden on purpose?"

"No, I didn't," said Blossom. The field is open to walk in, and I was crossing it. George Reed made me a sign afore I came up to him, to look in, as he was doing, and I did so, not knowing what there might be to see. It would be nothing to me if the major worked in his garden of a Sunday from sunrise to sunset; he's welcome to do it; but, if you summons me here and ask me did I see him working, I say yes, I did. Why d'you send me a summons if you don't want me to tell the truth? Let me be, and I'd ha' said nothing to mortal man."

Evidently nothing favorable to the defence could be got out of James Blossom. Mr. Brandon began saying to the major that he feared there was no help for it; they should be obliged to convict him; and was met by a storm of reproach.

Convict him! roared the major. For having picked two or three apricots—and for stooping to pull up a couple or so of worthless weeds? He would be glad to ask which of them, his brother magistrates sitting there, would not pick an apricot, or a peach, or what not, on a Sunday, if he wanted to eat one? The thing was utterly preposterous.

"And what was it I did?" demanded George Reed, drowning interfering voices who would have stopped him. "I went to the garden to get up a bunch of turnips for my sick wife, and seeing some withered weeds flung on the bed I drew them off with the hoe. What was that, I ask? And it was no more; no more, gentleman, in the sight of heaven."

No particular answer was given to this: perhaps the justices had not any ready. Mr. Brandon was beginning to confer with the other two in an under tone, when Reed spoke again.

"I was dragged up here in handcuffs, and told I had broken the law; Major Parrifer said to me himself that I had violated the sanctity of the sabbath (them were the words); and therefore I must be punished; there was no help for it. What has he done; I didn't do as much as he has."

"Now you know, Reed, this is irregular," said one of the justices. "You must not interrupt the court."

"You put me in prison for a month, gentlemen resumed Reed, paying no attention to the injunction. "They cut my hair close in the prison, and they kept me to hard labor for the month, as if I didn't have enough of hard labor out of it. My wife was sick and disabled at the time, my three little children be helpless; it wasn't thanks to the magistrates, gentlemen, or to Major Parrifer that they did not starve."

"Will you be quiet, Reed?"

"If I deserved one month of prison," persisted Reed, fully bent on saying what he had to say, "Major Parrifer must deserve two—for his offence is larger than mine. The law's the same for both of us, I suppose. He——"

"Reed, if you say another word I will order you at once from the room," interrupted Mr. Brandon, his thin voice sharp and determined. "How dare you persist in addressing the bench, when you are told to be quiet!"

Reed fell back and said no more. He knew that Mr. Brandon had a habit of carrying out his own authority, in spite of his nervous health and querulous way of speaking. The justices spoke a few words together, and then said they found the offence proved, and inflicted a fine on Major Parrifer.

He dashed the money down on the table, in too great a rage to do it politely, and went out to his carriage. There was no other case on, that day, and the justices got up and mixed with the crowd. Mr. Brandon, who felt chill in the hottest summer's day, and was afraid of showers, buttoned on a light overcoat.

"Then there's two laws, sir?" said Reed to him, quite civilly, but in a voice that everybody might hear. "When the law was made against Sabbath-breaking, those that made it passed one for the rich and another for the poor?"

"Nonsense, Reed."

"*Nonsense*, sir? I don't see it. I was put in prison; Major Parrifer has only got to pay a bit of money, which is of no more account to him than dirt, and that he can't feel the loss of. And my offence—if it was an offence—was less than his."

"Two wrongs don't make a right," said Mr. Brandon, dropping his voice to a low key. "You ought not to have been put in prison, Reed; had I been on the bench it should not have been done."

"But it was done, sir, and my life got a blight on it. It's on me yet; will never be lifted off me."

Mr. Brandon smiled one of his quiet smiles, and spoke in a whisper. "He has got it too, Reed, unless I mistake. He'll carry that fine about with him always. Johnny, are you there? Don't go and repeat what you've heard me say."

Mr. Brandon was right. To have been summoned before the bench, where he had pomposuly sat to summons others, and for working on a Sunday above all things; to have been found guilty and fined, was as the bitterest potion to Major Parrifer. The Bench would never be to him the seat it had been; the remembrance of the day when he was before it, would, Mr. Brandon expressed it, be carried about with him always.

They projected a visit to the seaside at once. Mrs. Parrifer, with three of the Misses Parrifer, came dashing up to people's houses in the carriage, finer and louder and grander than ever: she said that she had not been well and was ordered to Aberystwith. The next day they and the major were off; and heaps of cards were sent round with "P. P. C." in their corner. I think Mr. Brandon must have laughed when he got his.

The winter holidays came round again; we went home for Christmas, as usual, and found George Reed down with some sort of illness. There's an old saying "When the mind's at ease the body's delicate," but Mr. Duffman always maintained that though that might apply to a short period of time, in the long run mind and body sympathized together. George Reed had been a very healthy man, and as free from care as most people; this last year's care and trouble and mortification had lain on his mind, and at the beginning of winter his health broke down. It was quite a triumph (in the matter of opinion) for old Duffham.

The illness began with a cough and a low fever, neither of which can laborers afford time to lie by for. It went on to greater fever and inflammation inside him, on the chest or lungs, or both. There was no choice then, and Reed took to his bed. For the most part, when poor people got ill, they had to get well again, without much notice being taken of them; but events had drawn attention to Reed, making him into a conspicuous character; his illness was talked of, and so he got help. Ever since the prison affair I had felt sorry for Reed, and so had Mrs. Todhetley.

"I have had some nice strong broth made for Reed, Johnny," she said to me one day in January; "it's as good and nourishing as beef-tea. If you want a walk you might take it to him."

Tod had gone out with the Squire, I felt dull, as I generally did without him, and put on my coat and hat. Mrs. Todhetley had the broth put into a bottle, and brought it to me wrapped in paper.

"I'd send him a drop of wine as well, Johnny, if you'd take care not to break the bottle, carrying two."

No fear. I put the one bottle to lodge in my breast-pocket, and took the other in my hand. It was a cold afternoon, the sky nearly of a steel-blue, the sun bright, the ground hard. Major Parrifer and two of his daughters, coming home from a ride, were cantering into the gates as I passed, their groom behind. I lifted my hat to the girls, but they only tossed their heads.

Reed was getting over the worst then, and I found him sitting by the kitchen fire, wrapped in a bed rug. Mrs. Reed took the bottles from me in the back'us—as they call the place where washing and the like was done—for Reed was sensitive and did not like for things to be sent to him.

"Please God, I shall be at work again next week," said Reed, with a groan; and I saw he knew I had brought something.

He had been saying that all along; four or five weeks now. I sat down opposite to him and took up the boy, George; the little shaver had come round to me, holding by the chairs.

"It's going to be a hard frost, Reed."

"Is it, sir? Out-o'-door weather don't seem to be o' much odds to me now."

"And a fall o' some sort's not far off, as my wrist tells me," put in Mrs. Reed. Years ago she had broken her wrist, and felt it always on change of weather. "May be some snow's coming."

I gave Georgy a biscuit; the two little girls, who had been standing still against the press, began to come slowly forward. I had dipped my hand into the biscuit-basket at home before coming away, and the children guessed it. They put out a hand each without being told, and I dropped a biscuit into them.

It had taken neither time nor noise, and yet there was some one standing inside the door when I looked up again, who must have come in stealthily; some one in a dark dress, and a black and white plaid shawl. Mrs. Reed looked and the children looked; and then Reed turned his head to look.

I think I was the first to know her; she had a black veil before her face, and the room was not light. Reed's illness had left him thin, causing his eyes to appear very large; they assumed a sort of frightened stare.

"Father! you are ill!"

Before he could answer, she had run across the brick floor and had her arms round his neck. Cathy! The children were frightened and ran to their mother; one began to scream and the other followed suit. Altogether there was noise and commotion; Georgy, like a brave little man, sucking his buiscuit through it all with great composure.

What Reed said or did, I had not noticed; I think he went to fling Cathy from him—to avoid suffocation perhaps. She burst out laughing in her old light manner, and took something out of the body of her gown, under the shawl.

"No need, father. I'm as honest as anybody," said she. "Look at this."

Reed's hand shook so that he could not open the paper, or understand it at first when he had opened it. Cathy flung off her bonnet and caught the children to her. They knew her then, and ceased their cries. Presently Reed held the paper across to me, his hand trembling worse than before, and his face, that illness had left white, turning ghastly with emotion.

"Please read it, sir."

I did not understand it at first either, but the sense came to me soon. It was a certificate of the marriage of Spencer Gervoise Daubeney Parrifer and Catherine Reed. They had been married at Liverpool the very day after Cathy disappeared from home; now just a year ago.

A sound of sobbing broke the stillness. Reed had fallen back in his chair in a sort of hysterical fit. Defiant, hard, strong-minded Reed! But the man was three parts dead from weakness. It lasted but a minute or two; he aroused himself as if ashamed, swallowed down his sobs, and was still.

"How came he to marry you, Cathy?"

"Because I wouldn't go with him to Ireland without it, father."

"And be you repenting of it yet?" asked Mrs. Reed, in an ungracious tone.

"Pretty near," answered Cathy, with candor.

"It appeared that Cathy had made her way direct to Liverpool, when she left home the previous January, travelling all night. There she met young Parrifer, who had preceded her and made arrangements for the marriage. They were married that day, and afterwards went to Ireland; where he had to join his regiment.

To hear all this, sounding like a page out of a romance, would be something wonderful for our quiet place. You meet with marvellous stories in town now and then, but they are almost unknown among us.

"Where's your husband?" asked Reed.

Cathy tossed her head. "Ah! Where! That's what I've come home about," she answered; and it struck me at once that something was wrong.

What occurred next we only learnt from hearsay. I said good-day to them, and came away, thinking to myself it might have been better if Cathy had not married and had not left home. It was a fancy of mine, and I don't know why it should have come to me, but it proved to be a right one. Cathy put on her bonnet again to go to Parrifer Hall; and the particulars of her visit were known abroad later.

It was getting rather dark when she approached it; the sun had set, the grey of evening was drawing on. Two of the Misses Parrifer were at the window, and saw her coming, but Cathy had her veil down and they did not recognize her. The actions and manners and air of a lady do not come of a sudden to one who has been bred differently; and the Misses Parrifer supposed the visitor to be for the servants.

"Like her impudence!" said Miss Jemima. "Coming to the front entrance!"

For Cathy, whose year's experience in Ireland had widely changed her, had no notion of taking up her old position. She meant to hold her own; and was capable of doing it, not being deficient in the quality just ascribed to her by Miss Jemima Parrifer.

"What next?" cried Miss Jemima, as a ring and knock resounded through the house, waking up the major, who had been dozing over the fire amidst his daughters.

The next was that a servant came to the room and told the major a lady wanted him. She had been shown into the library.

"What name?" asked the major.

"She didn't give none, sir. I asked, but she said never mind the name."

"Go and ask it."

The man went and came back. "It's Mrs. Parrifer, sir."

"Mrs. Who?"

"Mrs Parrifer, sir."

The major turned and stared at his servant. They had no relatives. Consequently the only Mrs. Parrifer within knowledge was his wife.

Staring at the man would not bring any elucidation. Major Parrifer went to the library and there saw the lady standing at one side of the fender holding her foot to the fire. She had her back to him, did not turn, and so the major went round to the other side of the hearth rug where he could see her.

"My servant told me a Mrs. Parrifer wanted me. Did he make a mistake in the name?"

"No mistake at all, sir," said Cathy, throwing up her veil, and drawing a step or two back, "I am Mrs. Parrifer."

The major recognized her then. Cathy Reed! He was a man whose bluster rarely failed, but he had none ready at that moment. Three parts astounded, various perplexities tied his tongue.

"That is to say, Mrs. Spencer Parrifer," continued Cathy. "And I have come over from Ireland on a mission to you, sir, from your son."

The major thought that of all the audacious women it had ever been his lot to meet, this one was the worst: at least as much as he could think anything, for his wits were a little confused just then. A moment's pause and then the storm burst forth.

Cathy was called various agreeable names and ordered out of the room and the house. The major put up his hands to "hurries" her out—as we say in Worcestershire by the cows, though I don't think you could find the word in the dictionary—but Cathy stood her ground. He then went screaming towards the door, calling for the servants to come and put her forth; Cathy, quicker than he, gained it first and turned to face him, her back against it.

"You needn't call me those names, Major Parrifer. Not that I care—as I might if I deserved them. I am your son's wife, and have been ever since I left father's cottage last year; and my baby, your grandson, sir, which it's seven weeks old he is, is now at the Red Lion, a mile off. I've left it there with the landlady a bit.

He couldn't put her out of the room unless by force; he looked ready to kick and strike her; but in the midst of it a horrible dread rose up in his heart that the calm words were true. Perhaps from the hour when Reed had presented himself at the house to ask for his daughter, the evening of the day he was discharged from prison, up to this time, Major Parrifer had never thought of the girl. It had been said in his ears now and again that Reed was grieving for his daughter; but the matter was altogether too contemptuous for Major Parrifer to take note of. And now to hear that the girl had been with his son all the while, his wife! But that utter disbelief came to his aid, the major might have fallen into a fit on the spot. For young Mr. Parrifer had cleverly contrived that neither his father at home nor his friends near should know anything about Cathy. He had been with his regiment in quarters; she had lived in private in another part of the town. Mrs. Reed had once called Lieutenant Parrifer as soft as a tom-tit; he was a vast deal softer.

"Woman! if you do not quit my house, with your shameless lies, you shall be flung out of it."

"I'll quit it as soon as I've told you what I came over the sea to tell. Please to look at this first, sir."

Major Parrifer snatched the paper that she held out, carried it to the window, and put his glasses across his nose. It was a copy of the certificate of marriage His hands shook as he read it, just as Reed's had shaken a short time before, and he tore it passionately in two.

"It is only the copy," said Cathy calmly. "Your son—if he lives—is about to be tried for his life, sir. He is in custody for wilful murder!"

"How dare you!" shrieked Major Parrifer.

"It is what they have charged him with. I have come all the way to tell it you, sir."

Major Parrifer, brought to his senses by a shock of fright, could but listen. Cathy, her back against the door still, gave him the heads of the story.

Young Parrifer was so soft that he had been made a butt of by sundry of his brother officers. They might not have tolerated him at all but for winning his money. He drank, and played cards, and bet upon horses; they encouraged him to drink, and then made him play and bet, and altogether cleared him out; not of brains, he had done to be cleared of, but of money. Ruin stared him in the face; his commission (it was said) was mortgaged; how many promissory notes, bills, IOU's he had signed, could not even be guessed at. In a quarrel a few nights before, after a public-house supper, when some of them were the worse for drink, young Parrifer, who could go on rare occasions into frightful passions, flung a carving knife at one of the others, a lieutenant named Cook; it entered a vital part, and killed him. Mr. Parrifer was arrested by the police at once; he was in plain clothes and there was nothing to show that he was an officer. They had to strap him down to carry him to prison; between drink, rage and fever he was a maniac. The next morning he was lying in brain fever, and when Cathy left he was in a straight-waistcoat.

She gave the heads of this account in as few words as it is written. Major Parrifer stood like a helpless man. Taking one thing with another the blow was horrible. Parents don't often see the defects in their own children, especially if they are only sons; far from having thought his son soft, unfit (as he was nearly) to be trusted about. the Major had been proud of him as his heir, and told the world he was perfection. Soft as young Parrifer was, he had contrived to keep his ill-doings from his father.

Of course it was only natural that the Major's first relief should be abuse of Cathy. He told her all that happened to his son she was the cause of, and called her a few more genteel names in doing it.

"Not at all," said Cathy; "you are wrong there, sir. His marriage with me was a little bit of a stopgap, and served to keep him straight for a month or two; but for that, he'd have done for himself before he has. Do you think I've had a bargain in him, sir? No. Marriage is a thing that can't be undone, Major Parrifer: but I wish to my heart I was at home again in father's cottage, light-headed Cathy Reed."

The Major made no answer. Cathy went on.

"When the news was brought to me by his servant, that he had killled a man and was lying raving, I thought it about time to go and see about him. They wouldn't let me into the lock-up house where he was lying—and you might have heard his ravings outside I did. I said I was his wife; and then they told me I had better see Captain Williams. I went to headquarters and saw Captain Williams. He seemed to doubt me, till I showed him the certificate, and told him the baby was at home, turned six weeks old. He was very kind theo, sir; he took me to see my husband; and he advised me to come home here at once and give you the particulars. I told him what was the truth—that I had no money, and the lodgings were owing for. He said the lodgings must wait; and he would lend me enough money for the journey."

"Did you see him?" growled Major Parrifer.

Cathy knew that he alluded to his son, though he would not speak the name.

"I saw him, sir; I told you so. He did not know me or anybody else; he was raving mad, and shaking so that the bed shook under him."

"How is it that they have not written to me?" demanded Major Parrifer.

"I don't think anybody liked to do it. Capt. Williams said the best plan would be for me to come. He asked me if I'd like to hear the truth of the past as regarded my husband, or if I would just come here and tell you the bare facts that were known about his illness and the charge against him. I said I'd prefer to hear the truth—that it couldn't be worse than I suspected. Then he went on to the drinking and the gambling and the debts, just as I've repeated to you, sir. He was very gentle; but he said he thought it would be mistaken kindness not to let me understand the state of things. He said Mr. Parrifer's father, or some other friend, had better go over to Ireland."

In spite of himself, a groan escaped Major Parrifer. The blow was the worst that could have fallen upon him. He had not cared much for his daughters; his ambition was wrapped up in his son. Visions of a sojourn at Dublin and of a figuring off at the vice-regal court, himself, his wife, and his son, had floated occasionally in rose-colored clouds before his brain, poor old stupid. And now to picture the visit he must set out upon, and ere the night was over, nearly drove him wild with pain. Cathy unlatched the door but waited to speak again before she opened it.

"I'll rid the house of me now that I've broke it to you, sir. If you want me I shall be found at my father's cottage, I suppose they'll let me stay there; if not, you can hear of me at the place where I've left my baby. And if your son should ever wake out of his delirium, Major Parrifer, he'll be able to tell you that if he'd listened to me and heeded me, or even only come to spend his evenings with me—which it's months since he did—he'd not have been in this plight now. Should they try him for murder; and nothing can save him from it if he gets well; I——"

A succession of screams cut short what Cathy was about to add. In her surprise she drew wide the door, and was confronted by Miss Jemima Parrifer. That young lady, curious upon the subject of the visit and visitor, had thought it well to put her ear to the library door. To no effect, however, until Cathy unlatched it. And then she heard more than she had thought for.

"Is it you!" roughly cried Miss Jemima, recognizing her for the ill-talked of Cathy Reed, the daughter of the major's enemy. What do you want here?"

Cathy did not answer. She walked to the hall door, and let herself out. Miss Jemima went on into the library.

Papa, what was it she was saying about Spencer, that vile girl? What did she do here? Why did she send in her name as Mrs. Parrifer?"

The major might have heard the questions, or he might not; he didn't respond to them. Miss Jemima, looking closely at him in the dusk of the room, saw a grey, worn, terror-stricken face, that had never yet looked like her father's.

"Oh, papa! what is the matter? Are you ill?"

He walked towards her in the quietest manner possible, took her arm and pushed her out at the door; not rudely; softly as one might do who is in a dream.

"Presently, presently," he muttered in quite an altered voice, low and timid. And Miss Jemima found the door bolted against her.

It must have been an awful moment with him. Look on what side he would, there was no comfort. Spencer Parrifer was ruined past redemption. He might die in this illness, and then, what of his soul? not that the major was given to that kind of reflection. Escaping the illness, he must be tried—for his life, as Cathy had phrased it And, escaping that, if the miracle were possible, there remained the miserable debts and the miserable wife he had clogged himself with.

Curious enough, as the miserable major, more miserable in that moment than either, pictured these things, there suddenly rose up before his mind's eye another picture. A remembrance of Reed, who had stood in that very room less than twelve months ago, in the dim light of the night, with his hair cut close and his semi-threat. "*It'll come home to you, Major Parrifer.*" *Had* it come home to him? Home to him already? The drops of sweat broke out on his face as he asked himself the question. It seemed to him, in that moment of excitement, so very like some of heaven's own lightning.

One grievous portion of the many ills perhaps had not fallen but for the putting of Reed in prison—the marriage; and that one was more humiliating to Major Parrifer's spirit than all the rest. Had Reed been at liberty, Cathy might not have made her escape untracked, and the bitter marriage had been avoided.

A groan, and now another broke from the major. How it had come home to him! not his selfishness and his barbarity and his pride, but this blow of sorrow. Reed's month of prison, compared to this, was a drop of water to the wide waves of the ocean. As to the girl—when Reed had come asking for tidings of her, it had seemed to the major not of the least moment whither she had gone or what ill she had entered on; was she not a common laborer's daughter, and that laborer George Reed? Even then, at that very time, she was his daughter-in-law, and his son the one to be humiliated. Major Parrifer ground his teeth, and only stopped when he remembered that something must be done about that disgraceful son.

He started that night for Ireland. Cathy, affronted at some remark made by Mrs. Reed, took herself off from her father's cottage. She had a little money left yet from her journey, and could spend it.

Spencer Gervoise Daubeney Parrifer (the major and his wife had bestowed upon him the fine names in pride at his baptism) died in prison. He lived but a day after Major Parrifer's arrival, and never recognized him. It of course saved the trial when he would probably have been convicted of manslaughter. It saved the payment of his hundreds of debts, too; post-obits and all; he died before his father. But it could not save exposure; it could not save the facts from the world. Major and Mrs. Parrifer, so to say, would never lift up their heads again; their sun of life had set.

Neither would Cathy yet awhile. She contrived to quarrel with her father; the Parrifers never took the remotest notice of her; she was nearly starved and her baby too. What little she earned was by hard work: but it would not keep her, and she applied to the parish. The parish in turn applied to Major Parrifer, and forced from him as much as the law allowed, a few shillings a week. The having to apply to the parish was the worst of all for Cathy, a humiliation never to be forgotten. The neighbors made their comments. "Cathy Reed has brought her pigs to a fine market!" So she had: and she felt it more than the loss of her baby, who died soon after. Better that she had married an honest day-laborer; and she knew it now.

JOHNNY LUDLOW.

## Fire Extinguishers.

Water is the substance that is usually resorted to for the extinguishment of fire, because of the supposed antagonism which exists between these substances But there are situations in which water is very inefficient in extinguishing flames. For instance, when a large building is in flames, particularly if it has a metallic roof, the heat may be sufficient to decompose the water into its elements, oxygen and hydrogen, which will afterward unite and produce an even greater degree of heat than that which existed before the application of the water. Water seems to act in two ways in arresting the progress of flames. It may cool down the burning substances below the point of combustion, or it may in a liquid or gaseous form, prevent the flames from coming in contact with the combustible material. In order to effect this latter purpose a machine has been devised, in which a stream of water saturated with carbonic acid, shall play on the burning building. We all know how soon a fire will be extinguished when there is no outlet for the products of its combustion, which, for the most part, is carbonic acid. If now, we combine water and carbonic acid, which we can do without increasing the bulk of the former, it is plain that we have redoubled the means at our disposal for putting out fires.

☞A card in the shop-window of an English corset maker exhibits the following singular instance of illiterate diction: "All kinds of ladies stay here."

☞A county magistrate, being called on to marry a couple said: "I pronounce you man and wife, and may God have mercy upon your souls. Amen."

☞Streets differ from men in some respects. The former are of little account except when laid out; the latter of scarcely none when in a like condition.

☞In the reign of Charles I., a mayor of Norwich actually sent a fellow to prison for saying that the Prince of Wales was born without a shirt.

☞Struggles in life are wont to bring us out; unless indeed, it be with a policeman, in which case it may take us farther in.

☞"We see," said Swift, in one of his most sarcastic moods, "what God thinks of riches by the people he gives them to."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